

OWEN'S PEMBROKESHIRE 1603

[English updated 2017/8 Basil H J Hughes BA after requests from readers of my research on Pembrokeshire]

THE CAMBRIAN REGISTER, FOR THE YEAR 1796.

FROM A MANUSCRIPT OF GEORGE OWEN, ESQ.; OF HENLLYS, LORD OF KEMMES,
WITH ADDITIONS AND OBSERVATIONS BY JOHN LEWIS, ESQUIRE MANARKAWAN,
THE SAME THAT IS REFERRED TO AND CITED IN GIBSON'S EDITION OF CAMDEN AND
NOW FIRST PUBLISHED FROM THE ORIGINAL BY HIS GREAT GRANDSON, RICHARD
FENTON ESQ

[Basil H J Hughes BA (basil.h.j.hughes@gmail.com)]

Table of Contents

Chapter 1.....	5
Of the Situation Form and Antiquities of Penbrokeshire with the Longitude and Latitude of the same and of the Air of the Country, and of the Soil.....	5
Chapter II.....	8
Of the ancient names of the Country and that the same in ancient time was a kingdom and shortly after the Conquest created an Earldom, and then raised to the Degree of Marquesdom, and what Kings, Earls and Marquesses have been of the same, and why it is called little England beyond Wales.....	8
Chapter III.....	11
What Nations and People inhabited this country in ancient times, and from whence the now inhabitants are anciently descended. And from what Countries and places how they came hither.....	11
Chapter IV.....	13
That the country is now inhabited by three separate Nations as Welshmen: the remnant of the ancient Britons and first inhabitants of the country; Englishmen, brought thither at the Conquest thereof; and by Irishmen which do daily ferry over thither out of Ireland; and of the languages spoken by these three several Nations.....	13
Chapter V.....	15
Of the Constitution of the bodies of the people and the Inclinations and nature of the inhabitants, as well as well by ancient writers as otherwise.....	15
Chapter VI.....	17
Of the divisions of the said country in ancient times, into Cantrefs and Camottes, how now it is divided into the Englishirie and the Welsherie, as also how the same is lastly divided into seven Hundreds.....	17
Chapter VII.....	20
Of the manner of Husbandry and tilling of the Land and of the natural help and amendments of the soil itself yieldeth for bettering and mending of the Lands, as Lime, two kinds of Marl, Sand and Ooze or Woade of the sea.....	20
Chapter VIII.....	28
Of the manner and order of Buildings, both of Towns, Castles, Churches, and Houses, used in this country, and of the Quarry's of Stones that are found fit and serving for that purpose.....	28
Chapter IX.....	32
Of the Castles, Forts and Strong Holds, in this Shire, and the Cities and Towns thereof.....	32
Chapter X.....	33
Of the several sorts of fuel that the Country yields.....	33
Chapter XI.....	37
Of the chief Rivers of this Shire, that have their course throughout the same, or have their Rising in the same and Endings in other Countries.....	37
Chapter XII.....	41
Of chief Hills and Mountains of this Shire.....	41
Gentlemen's Houses, Villages and towns, on high places.....	42
Places not inhabited, as High Rocks, Tumps; and Steeples.....	43
Rocks.....	43
Chapter XIII.....	45
Of Salt Islands separated by the sea from Penbrokeshire, and yet Part thereof; and diverse Rocks and stones near the sea shore, yielding fowl or other commodities; and of two Peninsulas.....	45

Caldey.....	45
Chapter XIV Of the several Sorts of Fish taken in this shire, as well in the Fresh Rivers as the Sea Coasts, and of the great plenty thereof.....	48
River Fish.....	48
Chapter XV.....	54
Of the abundance of Fowl that the Country yields; and of the several sorts thereof.....	54
Chapter XVI.....	57
Of the usual measure of Land in Penbrokeshire, and how the same differs in the sundries Parts thereof.....	57
Chapter XVII,.....	59
Of the Weights and Measures used in Penbrokeshire as well Dry as Liquid.....	59
Chapter XVIII.....	61
Of Fairs and Markets yearly used in Penbrokeshire.....	61
Chapter XIX.....	63
Of the Wants and Defects that the County of Penbroke naturally has and of diverse Inconveniencies in the State of the County.....	63
Chapter XX.....	67
Of the administration of Law and Justice within the County of Penbrok, as well by Common Law of the Realm, as Law for Causes Maritime, and appertaining to the Admiralty of England; together with the Government, Civil, and Ecclesiastical, practised and used by Laws Civil and Canon, By the Archbishop and Bishop of the Diocese, and how and where this shire does participate therein, with other countries of the Realm, in general and where, in particular, within itself and lastly, of the Government Martial and Military there, under the Lord Lieutenant.....	67
A pamphlet conveyning the definition of Milford Haven wherein is particularly sett forth all or most of the Roades Creeks Points Harborowes Riding George Owen 1595 (extracts --original English).....	71
Letter concerning the defence of Milford Haven 1595.....	73
Chapter XXI.....	76
Of the Use, Order, and Form of Conveyance of Lands and Tenements, used in ancient Tyme within the Countie of Penbroke and of divers ancient Words and Phrases used in old Tyme, now grown out of use, and not understood; and how the Conveyance differs at this day from that of ancient Tyme.....	76
Chapter XXII.....	80
Of divers general and particular customs used and allowed of within the County of Penbrok, as well Temporal as Ecclesiastical.....	80
Chapter XXII.....	83
Of divers famous and learned Men, that have lived or been born in the county of Penbrok, in former times, whose Works are left and be extant to Posterity.....	83
Patricius Magnus,.....	83
Dubricius Gwaynrianus.....	83
David, commonly called St David,.....	84
Merlin,.....	85
Sampson Demeta.....	85
Johannes Patricius, alias Erigena.....	85
Asserius Menevensis.....	85
Giraldus Cambrensis.....	86
Mauricius Morganensis.....	86
Adam Hatton.....	87
Henry Chichelsey.....	87
Thomas Rodburne,.....	87

Stephen Patrington,.....	87
John a Kent.....	88
King Henry The seventh, King of England.....	88
Reynold Pecocke.....	88
Sir Thomas Eliot, kn.....	88
William Owen Esq.....	88
Robert Record.....	89
Thomas Phaer.....	89
Harry Morgan.....	89
Thomas Yong.....	89
Richard Davies.....	89
Thomas Huett.....	89
Robert Lougher,.....	90
.....	90
Chapter XXVI.....	91
Of the divers Wonders and Curiosities of Penbrokeshire.....	91
Shaking Stone,.....	91
Well spring on the top of a high rock near St David's.....	91
Perthmawr Underground Passage.....	91
Sea shells found in Marl pits.....	92
Roots &c of Timber from under the sea revealed at low tides or after a storm.....	92
Bosheston Mere.....	92
Parish of Whitechurch Kemes no adders found.....	93
Pentre Jevan Cromlech.....	93
(Locusts?).....	94
Chapter XVII.....	95
Of the Worthyness of Penbrokeshire, and the People thereof in ancient times, and what benefit that Country hath yielded to the Realms of England; how Ireland and the chiefest Parts of Wales was first and Chiefly subdued by it to the Crowne of England.....	95
Chapter XXVIII.....	98
Of Pastimes and Recreations, fit for Gentlemen, which Penbrokeshire yields.....	98

Chapter 1.

Of the Situation Form and Antiquities of Penbrokeshire with the Longitude and Latitude of the same and of the Air of the Country, and of the Soil.

Penbrokeshire is seated in the furthest part of South Wales and most westerly corner thereof. Nearly opposite to the towns of Waterford and Wexford in Ireland. The city of St David's standing of the western promontory of the shire and the city of London, stand west and by north and east and by south each of the other; and from the city of York it stands south west and by west differing from it by 187 miles; and from the great town of Barwick south south west distance from it is 254 miles ; from the Isle of Wight three points of the compass of the west, which is north west and by west and distant from it 151 miles; and from the Lands End of England north north east distant from it 100 wanting 5 miles and from the Isle of Lundy west and by north, distant from it 42 miles.

The centre, or middle of the same shire, which I believe to be about Heythok Moore, is in longitude 17 degrees and 20 minute west of the Canary islands and hath the north pole elevated above our horizon 52 degrees, which is 40 minutes higher then that of the city of London, after the account of those that calculate 51 degrees and 20 minutes from London; so that our longest days should, by that account, exceed those at London by 13 minutes,' and thereby our longest summers day to be of 17 hours and 43 minutes long, and the shortest night 6 hours and 17 minutes long. (This much touching the situation of Penbrokeshire shall briefly suffice.)

As touching the form and situation thereof, by the topographical description, it is neither perfect square, long, nor round, but shaped with diverseness corners, some sharp, some obtuse, in some places concave, in some convex, but in most places concave and bending inward, as doeth the moon in her decreasing, as where the sea thrusteth itself in between Milford and St. David's Head, making a great and large bay; and again towards the landward, from Kilrhedyn to Cronweare, between the two which places Camarthenshire hath thrust itself in all most to the heart of this shire; where at Egermont it cometh within a mile of Lanhadden, being accompted a place near the middle of Penbrokeshire were it not for the encroachments by Carmarthenshire in that place. So hath the same diverseness other in-bowing places, as between Lidstep and St. Govan's Point, where the sea occupied a great inlet, and in other parts round about the shire, where the sea doth the like, dealing so unkindly with the poor country, as that it doth not in any where seem to yeald to the land in any part, but in every corner thereof eateth up part of the main.

By these concavities in the country's circumference, it must consequently follow, that the shire must be but little, much less than other shires, which scene less in view, and which have their extreme parts extended outward, without any such straining or parts worn thereof by the sea, and encroached by lands.

This much I have said, for that I have heard Penbrokeshire accompanied of those that knew it not, to be a great rich country as though it were large and well peopled, which indeed is clean contrary for that it cannot be either stored with wealth, being but small having in it naturally much barren land, except it be forced to profit, and one of the least shires; neither can it be well peopled for many causes as shall be declared hereafter. Their report of the shire (grounded I know not upon what uncertain foundation) hath of later years been the occasion (as it is thought) to overburden the same towards her majesties service for that it hath been charged with greater numbers of men, then some other shires in Wales, of far more largeness and better peopled And here I doe think good this occasion being offered here to speak of the quantity of the shire, to mention of one other cause, which hath been thought to have been conducive to the over- charging of this shire, towards these and other of her majesties services, which is the printed in maps of the shires, made and

published by Mr. Christopher Saxton, which maps are usually with all noblemen and gentlemen, and daily perused by them for their better instruction of the state of this realm; by which maps, if they be viewed only superficially without having any other regard Penbrokeshire seemeth to be one of the biggest shires of Wales having the room and place of a while sheet of paper allowed to itself as though it were so large to be to another shire, whereas all the rest of the twelve shires are placed together about forms of three or four together having their proper scales of same order, which may be the true cause of the error of all, for he having couched together in one map or sheet of paper the shires of Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Brecknock and Radnor and given these four no more room than to Penbrokeshire alone it may reference to such as are not skillfull on cosmography, but judge only of every shire big enough as their same appears to the view that Penbrokeshire in bigness-to as two of the last recited four; whereas in deeds and truth it is and I will, if occasion be given prove and make it manifest that either of the three or four shire is larger and contains more ground than Penbrokeshire does. Therefore, to unfold the hidden error hereof, and to the end that those that will may examine and find my sayings to be true, I will (as well to clear Mr Saxton from any fault either in art or meaning herein) as also to make Penbrokeshire appears in his true quantity, crave pardon of the gentry reader to open unto him the reasons to know and see the same, which is diabolical to make the difference of the scales of both maps; for Mr Saxon beginning his careful and commendable labour of the description of this realm of England and so coming to Wales passed first the upland shires and therein having joined together the shires of Merionith and Montgomery, Anglesey and Carnarvon, Denbige and Flint in three separate maps. Coming further he joined in one map and sheet of paper the great shires of Carmarthen, Cardigan, Brecknock and Radnor by reason wherefore he was forced to wring them so near together, thrusting one town- redd upon another that he was forced to make the scale shorter almost half of that of Penbrokeshire. But when he came to Penbrokeshire being next the sea and finding non other there to join with it, he was forced to make for that shire alone; and then he gave a large space to that shire and placed every town-reed far of from the other in distance as may appear by the map thereof, so that he made the map in view as large as that of the other last four shires. Now if you will judge rightly, to know the quantity of these shires you may not do it by looking only upon both maps, but by comparing the two scales together and thereby you shall find that the scale of ten miles of the Camarthenshire make but seven and about a quarter of the scale of Penbrokeshire; so that this you may prove and find out by the true trial of the scale that each of the these four shires contain more land and length and breadth the miles being multiplid together and reduced into plenametric (the only means to know the connect of any thing) then Penbrokeshire doth, and that by no great quantity; and yet in views by both maps Penbrokeshire shows much larger than any of them. And if this be a cause that may in any way induce our superior foe to judge of Penbrokeshire I could bargain with their honours would be more thoroughly informed thereof both by this, and all other things fit to be known to their lordships for their better inducement of these affairs

The length of this shire from the farthest pointers that can be measured for length is from Kemmes head called Penkemmes point north, to St Govan's point in the south, and in breadth from the river Cledde at Egermont in Carmarthen on the east side of the shire to St David's head being a sharp and narrow headland, stretching far out into it the sea (wherein I do my country wrong if it not to make it appears that being to be one of the least shires of Wales) is 17 miles 3 quarters. It is fetched from Cardiganshire by the river Teivy and from Cardiganshire by the river Kych which enters the Teivy at Blainkeach above Kilrhedyn Carmarthenshire that way shooting itself on the north coast, forming land measures from Kilrhedyn aforesaid to Cronweare water at Erewere in which course in some nooks, Penbrokeshire reaches to the river Teivy and then Carmarthenshire requiring, it reaches to the river Cledde, but in this all this tract between both shires Carmarthenshire hath encroached upon Penbrokeshire making itself larger and diminishing it neighbour. The rest of Penbrokeshire is with the sea forming the south east and by south to north it being as it were hanging to the land by one quarter. The situation of this country, as it yields convenience being placed on the sea coast for the easy vent and utterance of the countries produce

by water, as also by the resort of foreign shipping homeward and outward bound, for France, Ireland, the Straits, or any other south or west voyages, being forced by the south and west winds sending by them commendations to the safe and fair harbour of Milford; by which means the gentlemen of the country are often well served of many foreign commodities for their preference as with Wines, sugar, oils, spices, iron, linen, cloth &c. So on the other side the remoteness thereof for land journeys, as to the city of London and the town of Ludlow and other like are very tedious and troublesome, whereby one gale is found of the troublesome sort vexing the quieter, by process from London and the counsel of the marches, occasioned by Promoters, newly names Relators, a generation hated by the good and bad, who often times urge the poorer sort more for ease than their offence, to yield them completion, the courts of justice being so remote from this place.

The air of this country is said of strangers that resort this from the inland parts of England to be very cold and piercing, but found to be very healthy to the country inhabitants; seldom subject to infirmities whereby the people long and continuing very perfect of health and memory. For experience whereof my dearest ancestor at his death was accounted to have lived 105 years and was in his latter days lustier of body and always in health well able to travel and used to walk a good swift pace 4.5, or 6 miles a morning for his pleasure; and less than 6 years before his death, he, making the journey from town of Pembroke towards his house in the country began his journey on foot willing his man to bring his horse after him, for that his horse was not taken (and indeed was not taken that day) he having began his journey on foot was forced to so end the same and come to his house by one of the clock being 20 miles; he carried all his teeth with him to the grave and a few years before his death would eat a handful of nuts, shells and all; he was the youngest of his ancestors that died the last two descents before him. My mother also, yet living (God grant it long) and two other gentlewomen of the same parish, all three in perfect memory, can reckon between them 260 years, so healthy is the air and soil

The county is more subject showers than to snow or frost, the reason whereof, as I gather is the nearness of the sea, compelling it, whole water vapours at of the sun in the middle region of air turn to rain which if it exceed not, harms not the soil being naturally more inclined to dryness than moisture so that it is a saying among the husbandmen, that in the summer "rain every day is to much and every second day is to little" Snow is not so frequent and continue not in very many parts near the sea whose heat (as some say) but I think rather the moisture; for that you shall seldom see any part of the coast covered with snow one whole day, but the husbandmen may daily go plough and harrow near the sea when those more inland dwellers have their land frozen hard with frost. This is the nature of all sea coasts being a matter of no small benefit to the inhabitants; yet shall you see the tops of the few high mountains in this country tipped with snow, when all the country about them have shifted off its white clothing.

The south and south-west are very sharp and tempestuous above all others to this soil, and the trees everywhere appear bending and shorn with these winds so that a stranger may discover what point of the compass his journey lies by the bending of the trees.

Gerald Mercator commented the healthy air of this country saying, it is purified by the Irish air blowing across the channel into this part of the land accounting the climate of Ireland to be so pure and so rarely endued by nature, as to be free from all venomous creatures, and therefore to beget air less pestiferous than that of any other country not so gifted.

Chapter II.

Of the ancient names of the Country and that the same in ancient time was a kingdom and shortly after the Conquest created an Earldom, and then raised to the Degree of Marquesdom, and what Kings, Earls and Marquesses have been of the same, and why it is called little England beyond Wales

The most ancient name of the country of Penbrokeshire that we find in any authors is Demetia, a Latin word coined out of the ancient British name thereof; Dyfed, for so was the ancient name thereof, which then did contain a far larger territory then now it does. But the certainty of the extent as yet I have not learned. And that it was a kingdom in ancient times it appears by the kings thereof, which we read in many manuscripts of whom these following are some.

It appears in Ponticus Virunnius, and ancient and well reputed writer, that in the time of Julius Caesar it was a kingdom for says he King Cassibalan had with him in the battle against Caesar, three kings, being his subjects, Cerdionus king of Albania, Gwithaet king of Venedotia and Broghmael king of Demetia in which battle he put Caesar to flight.

Also **Doctor Powell** in his annotations upon Giraldus makes mention of an ancient author that says that Morgan king of Demetia with others were in the aid of Broughmael, king of Powys against Ethelred King of Northumberland. and

John Bale in his book of the learned men of Britain says that in the time Alfred king of the West Saxons there lived a learned man named Asserus Menevenus being chancellor of St David's who was cruelly persecuted by Hemedius king of that province so that he was forced to forsake his place and went to king Alfred.

Also the Auatsestt British History translated by **Doctor Powell** into English says that in the year of Christ 800, died Run king of Dyfed. Also the same said history that Ethelwolf king of England subdued the Kingdom of Dyfed or South Wales.

Diverse other kings of Demetia we find often rehearsed in the books of the ancient Genealogies of Wales, as Aylan king of Dyfed; Marius, whom, in the ancient British tongue we call Meyrik king of Dyfed and many others from whom many gentlemen of the country do yet to this day derive their descent from father to child down to themselves, all which manifestly that Demetia or Dyfed was, in times past, a kingdom

But how far soever the kingdom of Demetia extended in ancient times, it is very probable that the bounds thereof were much broken and encroached by the Saxons in their wars so that it clean lost the dignity of a kingdom, and held only the name of a county or province so called, and a seems in the end it was so worn that about the conquest time no more was left under the name of Dyfed, saving Pembroke and Camarthenshire, for so much do I find to be called Dyfed thence the Conquest; for says the Welsh History lately translated by Doctor Powell into English,

Griffith the son of Rees ap Tewdwr being betrayed by Griffith ap Cynan prince of North Wales was forced to flee to Dyfed and there at Ystrad Tywi levied a power of men, which Ystrad Tywi is the proper name of Carmarthenshire, so that then being about the time of Hen. I Carmarthenshire was part of Dyfed or Demetia; but shortly after it so decayed that no more was taken to be parcel of Dyfed saving Penbrokeshire only and so is it accounted at this day.

The name of Penbrokeshire began first about the time when Earl Strongbow subdued the country and built the town and castle of Penbroke and thereof called all the country thereabouts; and since so hence the name of Penbrok hath so worn out the ancient name of Dyfed in the same country that few or non of the country themselves knew that ever their country was called by that name, and one

only place as yet retained a memorial there of, that is the church and parish of Llandissilio, which, for difference between that, and the other parishes of that name, in sundrie parts of Wales, is commonly called of the inhabitants adjoining Llandissilio in Dyvet –whence arose a merry jest &c. And at this day the name of Dyfed is only found in ancient writers, as the names Albion and Britain are of England.

It was called Penbrokeshire from the town of that name which town was so named of the Cantref or Commote where in the said town was first built; for so I find that Cantref called in the ancient division of Wales and why the said Cantref was so called, is plainly appears by the etymology of the word, to all those that understand the ancient British or Welsh tongue; and especially the source itself itself shows the same to be so, to all that do know the fertility and beautifulnes thereof; for this is the very same place which is so greatly commended of Giraldus Cambrensis in his *Description of Wales*; so that of fertility it first took the name of Penbro, for this word, Pen in Welsh signifies the, principally or chief part of anything; and Bro signifies a vale, or any place of soil fertile and fit for corn, and for that this place of all Wales is the chief vale; therefore it was, and not unworthily called Penbro or Penvro, by the euphonics of speech and thereby is to be noted that they miss and err who write the word Pembrok with an M for the true orthography in Penbrok with an N.

The said county of Penbrokeshire is usually called Little England beyond Wales and therefore I think good to show my opinion why the said name was given it; and that notable antiquarian Camden, called **Anglia transwallina**. The reason why it took that may well be conjectured for the most part of the country speaks English, and in it no use of the Welsh.

The names of the people are mere English, each family following the English fashion in surnames. These buildings are English, in town-reds and villages, and not in several and lone houses.

Their diet is as the English people use as common food, beef, mutton, pigs, goose, lamb, veal and kid which usually the poorest husbandmen does daily feed on, whereas the Welshman do more usually feed on milk, butter, cheese and such like.

The names of the country places are altogether English as Wiston, Picton, Haroldston, Robertston, Johnston, Williamston, Norton, Weston, Southhill, Southhooke, &c&c. So that a stranger travelling from England and having ridden four score miles and more in Wales having heard no English, nor English names of people or of places, and coming to Penbrokeshire where he shall hear nothing but English and seeing the rest before agreeable to England, would imagine he had travelled through Wales and came to England again. These reasons and also for that the most of the ancient gentlemen came thither out of England, as is before declared, might very fitly procure it the name of Little England beyond Wales, which persuaded me much to think that it in ancient times in judgement of the laws of England held as part of England for whereas Wales was in the eye of the laws of England held to be a kingdom of itself and not part of the kingdom of England, and therefore the law courts of Westminster would not, nor could not direct process to the officers of Wales, for that these courts did not hold Wales within or subject to their jurisdiction yet is it manifest that the kings writ in ancient time did run into Penbrokeshire for it appears by the new book of Entries filio 229 that a plea of Dower depending in the county court of Penbrok, anno 2 Henry 6 was removed to the court of common pleas at Westminster by a writ directed to the earl of Penbrok to remove the case, Humfrey duke of Gloucester being then earl of Penbrok; whereupon as it appears the said record was removed. Also it is apparent that tempore Edw 3 fines were levied in the common pleas at Westminster of lands in Penbrokeshire. And in the said new book of Entries fil;74 title Assise in Office it also appears that an assize was brought before the justices in

Westminster for the of constable-ship of the castle of Llawhaden; as also by many other ancient matters of records it appears that the kings writ did roam in ancient times into Wales, as though the law did then account Penbroke-shire as part of England and not any part of Wales and so might also be termed Little England.

Chapter III

What Nations and People inhabited this country in ancient times, and from whence the now inhabitants are anciently descended. And from what Countries and places how they came hither

What people had been sent into Penbrokeshire to inhabit the same, will be often touched upon in diverse parts of the description of the shire, as of the Normans and Flemings that were brought thither by Arnold Montgomery, Earl Strongbow and the Flemings sent by King Henry I and by King Stephen. But to discourse some what more particular thereof in this placed may require to go back and treat a little of all Wales.

For till the coming of William the Conqueror into England the same was quietly possessed by the Britains (the Welshmen so now called) who were the first inhabitants, and of whom there are to this time many ancient gentlemen, which can by good authority trace their descent from diverse famous and illustrious families, that did possess great patrimonies, as shall appear in the particular places where I shall have occasion to speak of their proper habitations and houses. The ancient inhabitants had for their sovereigns, princes of Wales being in those days to whom they yielded their whole obedience, not owning another superior on earth, until after the Normans having subdued and supplanted the Saxon kings and nobles out of England, thirsted likewise for the rights and country of the Welsh princes and began to make wars upon them also and daily intrude upon their borders, giving such parts of the country to the lords of England as they would or could win and keep from the Welshmen, whereby diverse English lords won from the princes of Wales and their subjects, whole countries in Wales and built castles, towns and strongholds and peopled the same with English garrisons to keep the same. By this means --

Fitzhamon won	the country Glamorgan,
Bernard,	Newmarch Brecknok
Hameli de Baladon	the lordship of Abergavenny
Londre	the country of Kidwelly
Lacies earls of Lincoln	– the lordship of Denbigh
Gray	the lordship of Ruthin
Mortimers	Bromfield and Yare
Brevisse	the lordship of Gower and Bulth
Martin Tours	The lordship of Kemes

and to conclude by this means came

Arnolph Montgomery

and Gilbert Strongbow to Dyved or Penbrokeshire and subdued it, planting there his Norman gentlemen and others he brought with him, whole issues enjoy diverse lordships and manors then given them by those their lords to this day, but as for the Flemings there is no show of any remnant of them left, for if any of the progenies be remaining, yet is the memories thereof with their language quite forgotten; but I am persuaded that diverse of the common people swains and labourers of the country are descended of those Flemings for some reasons that induce me to think, which I will in my proper places declare hereafter.

That which persuaded me to think that the most part of the gentlemen of the shire now living are rather Norman than any other nation is their names which most part commonly in the beginning

was copied with these French Articles *De la* or *De Fitz* , and such like , which does manifest their descents to be of the French; yet, notwithstanding many of them, if not the major part were Saxons for otherwise the English tongue had not been their common and mother speech, for the conqueror brought with him for the most part mere Frenchmen and purposed to have uprooted the Saxon or English tongue out of England with the Englishmen themselves as may be perceived among many other things, by turning of their laws into the French and so, long after the conquest the English tongue was had in contempt, that the better sort refused to speak it and those that used to talk in English were yet used to write to each other in the French tongue as it is now used among the Welshmen who, although they usually speak the Welsh tongue yet will write to each other in English , and not in the speech they usually talk. The reason is the use they have to write in the one and not using to write in the other and so was the English grown out of fashion for the space of 100 or 200 years after the conquest and used only among the basest sort of people, the nobles and gentlemen using only the French tongue and of those letters in French I can yet show some very ancient written between those, that in all likelihood and presumption did not understand the language , but only that the clerks, who wrote those letters were inapt to write in English as the Welshman today in their own language; and by this their English speech here in Penbrokeshire I gather that the greatest part of those people that came into Penbrokeshire with their earls were Saxon and Englishmen. And it is very like that the conqueror having the purpose to supplant the English nation out of England would rather employ them and the Flemings in the wars against the Welshmen than the Frenchmen he brought with him saving such as were as were of account and which he meant to prefer by the service. I have sought therefore to confirm my assertion herein by gathering together the French names which I find to be of ancient time men of sort in Penbrokeshire , I refer you to them in their place when I come to treat of their habitations.

Chapter IV

That the country is now inhabited by three separate Nations as Welshmen: the remnant of the ancient Britons and first inhabitants of the country; Englishmen, brought thither at the Conquest thereof; and by Irishmen which do daily ferry over thither out of Ireland; and of the languages spoken by these three several Nations.

This Shire is taken to be divided into two parts, the Englishire and the Welshire as shall be more largely declared hereafter in the particular chapter thereof. The upper part of the shire, which I call the Welshire is inhabited by Welshmen, the first known owners of the country, and are such as were never removed by any conquest or stranger that won the country. These are the people of the hundreds of Kemes, Cilgerran at Dewisland and part of Narberth, in which hundreds there are diverse gentlemen that to this day do and should and keep there ancient houses and descent from ancestors for 400, 500, 600 years and more for notwithstanding that Kemes was conquered by Martin Tour's, yet for that the people of the country did not hold out till the uttermost yielded after one battle, he gave diverse of them their ancient lands to hold of him, and did not utterly dispose them as was done with the inhabitants of Roose, Narberth, Castlemartin and parts of Dugledu were, and Englishmen placed in their rooms and therefore; the inhabitants of of Kemes do vaunt their great antiquity much before any others of the shire, accounting themselves ancient gentlemen in the country than any of those that came hither with Strongbow; and these gentlemen have yet many ancient families in the country which preserve their descents to this day, and are well known by good proof of ancient writings and records, that their ancestors have been owners of those lands they now enjoy many years before the coming of Strongbow into this country, which was in the time of Henry I. Also it seems that another cause moved him to suffer the ancient inhabitants of Kemes to enjoy their patrimonies and made the Welshmen the more to yield their obedience to him, is the agreement which was made between his son Sir William Martyn, when he married the Lord Rees's daughter, the then Lord of Kemmes, so that the said William came to a quiet possession of the same, as well by the conquest of the same; and of this Giraldus Cambrensis speaks of the injurious dealings of the said Lord Rees with Sir William Martyn, when he purposed to break with him for the castle of Nevern; but how so ever it fell out certain it is that the ancient men of Kemes were not utterly destroyed as we find that to this day notwithstanding the country was subdued by an invader still the first inhabitants remain there, and this is the cause that they yet retain their inheritance and their ancient language, the Welsh.

Dewisland being long before given to the bishops of St Davids, by ancient princes of the country, the men of war of that age accounted it a profane and ignominious offence to attempt anything against the possessions of the church, and therefore they remained in quiet and the country never harassed; wherefore this hundred retain and used the ancient language, as likewise does Cilgerran, by what means I know not, for sure I am, that the same was won by William Marshall – but the countries of Roose, Castle Martin, Narberth and most of Dugleddy Hundred, the bishops lordships excepted, were wholly put to the fire and the sword by the Normans, Flemish and Englishmen, who utterly expelled the inhabitants and peopled the countries themselves; whole posterities remain there till this day, as may appear by their names manner and language, speaking together the English, and different in occurrences, diet, building and tilling of the land from the Welshman and although this is near 500 years past yet do these nations, keep each from dealing with the other as mere strangers, for that the meanest sort of people will not, nor does not, join together in marriage although they be in one hundred and community in the same parish nor commerce or buy in open fairs so that you shall find in one parish a pathway parting the English from the Welsh and the one side speaks all English and the other all Welsh and differing in tilling and measuring of the land. And now this diversity of speech breeds some inconveniences, for that often times it is found at the assizes that a

jury of twelve men there will be one half that cannot understand the others words and yet must they agree upon the truth of the matter before they depart. and I have seen two sides sworn for trial, of the Panel half were English, the other, not understanding a word of English have sat out three days upon the matter, the one not able to speak to the other.

As for the Irishmen they are so powerful among the inhabitants of Roose and Castlemartin that in every village you shall find the 3rd 4th or 5th householder and Irishman and now more of late they swarm more than in times past by reason of these late wars in Ireland and if it so continues for to come in short times they are likely to match the other inhabitants in number.; these for the most part speak and use here the English tongue yet in such sort as that all men may discern them to be country people as also by the rudeness of their manner for the servants will usually *thau* his master , and think it no offence; as many as come out of the counties of Wexford say they understand no Irish, neither do any well understand English. They are so increased that there are whole parishes inhabited by the Irish having not one English or Welsh but the Parson of the parish. And those Irish people do us their country trade in making of *Aqua Vitae* in great abundance which they carry to be sold abroad the country, on horseback and otherwise. So that weekly you may be sure to have *Aqua Vitae* to be found at your door, and by means it is grown to be a usual drink in most mens houses instead of wine; some of them making exceedingly good, and better cheap than in any part of England or Ireland. I have drunk as good as some *Rafa Solis* made by them, and this sold usually for 16d a quart, but commonly you shall have very good for 10d or 12d. The quart, which is better cheap than ever I could buy the like elsewhere.

Chapter V

Of the Constitution of the bodies of the people and the Inclinations and nature of the inhabitants, as well as well by ancient writers as otherwise.

What I shall here speak touching the constitution of the bodies of the people is concerned to the general and common sort being the greatest number. As for gentlemen or townsmen of those I will afterwards speak in particular.

This kind then are very mean and simple, short of growth and shrubby, unacceptable in fight for the most part, however they prove in actions when they are put to it. So that of all the countries of Wales I am bold to pronounce (and I speak from experience) Penbrokeshire be worst of man-reed, and hardest to find proper serviceable men; so that the lieutenants and commissioners for musters, are more toiled in seeking 50 performable men, than their neighbour shires are to find 100. And when they have used their utmost industry therein, in the end they are forced to set forth many to their own dislike. The cause of this disability of persons is easily to be discerned, if a man but looks into the state of the country and the education of the meanest sort of people, for this country of Penbrokeshire being almost enveloped with sea, bare champion, and naked of wood and shelter is more subject to extremities of storms, sudden tempests, and sea storms of wind and hail than other inland countries are, and therefore there are few hedges or enclosures to found; by reason whereof the husbandmen are forced to keep herds for their cattle, and that is greater numbers than other countries in England do, or that themselves need, as I shall hereafter touch more largely, when I come to speak of the inconveniences of this country; for I have by good account numbered three thousand young people, to be brought up continually on herding cattle, within this shire; who are put to this idle education, when they first come to be ten or twelve years of age, and turned out to the fields to watch their cattle, where they endure the heat of the sun, in his greatest extremities, to parch and burn their faces hands and legs, feet as they seem more like tawny mops, than people of this land; and then with the cold, frost, snow, hail, rain and wind they are so tormented, having the skin of their legs, hands face and feet as all were chinks and chapped (like the chinks of an elephant skin wherewith he is wont to take the flies that come thither to such his blood) that the poor souls they may well hold opinions with the Papists, that there is a purgatory; and being thus tanned with the heat of the sun and dried up with the heat and the cold, as the fishermen do their stock fish in the frost; and poor Johns with the summer heat, for many of that name, may well near be reckoned with these sort suffering as much from the other people that are brought up in warm houses, by good fire in winter and sheltered by house or shade in summer, as the stock-fish or poor Johns do from the large organ ling; and when they redeem their liberties out of this purgative by attaining to 20 or 24 years of age, then they are held in such continual labour, in tilling of the land, burning of the lime, digging of coal and other slaveries and extreme toils as while they live they never come in shape, favour of outlines to be accompanied among among the number of personable men, and yet, perhance, his deformity notwithstanding as serviceable is proof, as he that looks with a fairer countenance. This is one chief cause as I take it why this country comes so far behind the rest of Wales, for mannered and able persons as it is found to do; beside this, the country especially of late years much to trade to sea, and a great part of the countries people are seamen and mariners which may not be taken up for land services and many of them continually abroad at sea and seldom to be found at home; which is a special matter that should be regarded in finding number of men for foreign services upon this shire. Beside this county nourished neither willingly harbours any idle people, which are always found to be the most personable men; but every man applies diligently to his own business that he lives by; and in this respect, I am induced to think that these meaner sorts of people, although they have lost their language, are the remnants and offspring of those Flemings that were sent hither to Penbrokeshire by Hen.1 and king Stephen and placed about Penbrokeshire

and Haverfordwest, if we may be allowed to judge from the cleanest of their houses and careful plying their labours they have in hand, and for their true and plain dealing in which they much resemble the Cozens, the low countrymen; who for the qualities above expressed carry the praise of all other nations. One one thing they have strangely altered their stomach from the rest over the sea for in that excess with which they are taxes for drinking, are these their kinsfolk for excessive eating, for of custom they will have five meals a day, and if you will bestow the sixth on them they will accept it very kindly, and if they be but a little entreated they will bestow labour on the seventh meal. But of this I will more largely speak hereafter among the inconveniences pertaining to this country.

Generally for the inclination of the people, as well gentlemen yeomen, rich and poor, they all embrace peace, quietness, and neighbourly love, hating occurring troubles, lawless, and sanctions. mere bent to put up with and injury than to revenge a wrong easily entreated after an offence received and if these be one of two of contrary dispositions to be found among us they are not to be reckoned of; but my speech is of the most part of the people not regarding a few, if any lie. And to conclude in a few words very obedient to the magistrates of the country undertaking willingly to their power, any burden or charge laid upon them for the princes service or their countries good without repining there at providing that there be no oppression, or partiality offered which grieves them more than the burden will quickly move them to complain.

The gentlemen, serving men and the townsmen of this country are not so unserviceable but very personable comely and tall men, which confirm my former assertions that the hard labour, parched of the sun and starving with cold is a chief cause of the unseemly lines of the common people of the country; seeing the gentlemen, serving men and those brought up in the towns, which are not tormented with these extremities of heat and cold, nor tired with toil does prove more personable; and of the common people of this country the Welshmen whom the rest call the mountain men are found to be more personable, as people not so cloyed with labour as those who live by the tillage; yet not withstanding the unserviceability of the men, I have heard diverse captains that have had the leading and training of these county men, in foreign parts commend them for their for their services as people docile, and apt to receive instruction in martial discipline, and able to endure travel and share danger and it should follow that those which are so acquainted with the force of heat and could must prove less dainty thereof than those that have not tasted it before, It was a special commendation given to the Roman conjurator Catylin that he was *patiams frigaris & inealiae*. Wherein if our country may receive praise for the one it is like they will couch repine at the other, if their stomachs be no more cold abroad than at home.

Chapter VI

Of the divisions of the said country in ancient times, into Cantrefs and Camottes, how now it is divided into the Englishirie and the Welsherie, as also how the same is lastly divided into seven Hundreds.

Before I declare unto you how the same was in ancient times divided into into Cantrefs and Commote, it is necessary to show what the same names do signify and when the same partition was made; and first as touching when the same was so parted, it is of that antiquity, that there is not extant any matter of credit to ground any certainty thereof upon: but manifest it is that all Wales was in the times of the Britain's divided into commots and Cantrefs each of them known by their proper names and bounds, many of which names as yet rename and the places well known by the same, whilst some (though not many) are buried in oblivion, yet to be found out by some memorial of these names.

Rodri Mawr, prince, or rather king of all Wales, about the year of Christ 843, had three sons, among which he divided all Wales, consisting of 53 Cantrefs, whereof he gave to Cadell, his eldest, all the country of South Wales to his part and portion, which included this province of Penbrokeshire and of which only I will speak in this place, containing 7 Cantrefs, each Cantref being divided into 3 commots, whose names, as I find them written of ancient time, I have thought good to insert here, that is to say:-

Emlyn Cantref, containing 3 commots, (viz.)
Uwch Keach,
Is Keach,
Levethir.

Doyglethe Cantref, 3 commots(viz.)
Amgoed,
Pennant,
Evelfrey.

Arberth Cantref, 3 commots,(viz.)
Penrinarclais,
Efkyr olef,
Talacham.

Penvro Cantref, 3 commots, (viz.)
Coedyrhaf,
Manerbir,
Penvro.

Roose Cantref, 3 commots, (viz.)
Hwlfordd,
Caftcll Gwalch-mai,
Y Garn.

Pebidiog Cantref, 3. commots (viz.)
Minyw,
Pcncacr,
Pebidiog.

Kernes Cantref, 3 ,commots (viz.)
Ywch Nyfcr,
Is Nyfcr,
Trefdi'aetfa.

The name of **Cantref** is an ancient British word, and well understood of the Welshmen by the etymology thereof for *tref* signifies a town or village and canty is a hundred from the Latin centum so signifying a hundred townreds or villages, and each townred consists of a certain number of acres of land so that for the most part each Cantref seems to be of equal quantity. The word **Commote** signifies a neighbourhood or concourse of people, and may very well be expounded by the Latin word used by the clerks of the common law in their writs of *Venire facias Vicinetun* for as the Latin word *Vicine* signifies a neighbour so does the Welsh word *Comodog* signify the same and as the word *Vicinetumis* taken in the eye of the law for the hundred so was each of those commots ancient hundreds and had a hundred cootes^[7] kept in them. Thus much of the commots and Cantrefs of Penbroke-shire stands the most ancient division of the same.

Now will. I speak of the second division thereof, as it now stands divided between the Englishmen and the Welshmen of the shire but first as I before have declared the same being in ancient time inhabited wholly by Welshmen a greater part was won from them by the English under the conduct of Earl Strongbow and diverse others; and the same planted with his followers whose posterity enjoy it to this day, and keep their language among themselves, without receiving the Welsh speech or learning any part thereof, and hold themselves so close to the same, as to this day they wonder at a Welshman coming towards them the one neighbour saying to the other, look there goes a Welshman.

The shire is well nearly equally divided into two parts, between the English speech and the Welsh, for the hundreds of Castlemartin, Roose, and all Narberth, except the parishes of Landewi and Lampeter, and all Dougledy, excepting the parishes of Lanvaheg, Langain, Landysilio, Lanykeven, and Crynow, do speak English, and then the hundreds of Kemes, Kilgerran and Dewisland speak all the Welsh tongue, so for that about 74 parishes are inhabited by the Englishmen and 64 parishes more by the Welsh, and the rest being about 6, speak both languages, being as it were the marches between both these nations. The Lansker that parts the two languages, begins at Cronwere, by Carmarthenshire, and so passes up to Lanhaden, where both languages are spoken, and from thence, between Bletherston and Lanykeven, to New Mote, and so between Castle Byre and Ambleston and so between Trefgarne and St Dogwells and over the hills between Hays Castle and and then turning down Newgale Moore as the same river leads to the sea between Roche Castle and bridge, the southern part of which Lansker speak all English and the northern side Welsh, well near as I said before parting the shire in two equal half's between them

Lastly as touching the divisions into hundreds, the same consists of seven as of old; four of which said hundreds being such that follow, do agree each of them in quantities with the ancient Cantrefs before expressed and the three last are altered in name though the two first of the three contains the same quantity under other names.

- 1 Kemes.
- 2 Dugledu.
- 3 Roose.
- 4 Narberth.
- 5 Dewisland
- 6 Castle Martin.
- 7 Kilgarran.

Dewisland is that which in ancient times was called Cantrd Pebidiog, and so is it called of Welshmen to this day. It took the name of Dewisland among the Englishmen for that it was given to the bishops see of St Davids at the first time it was made a Hundred which St. Davids was allied in Welsh Dewi

Castlemartin Hundred that was called the Cantre of Penfro, but contained but two of the three ancient commots thereof –

Maner-Pyr and

Penfro;

The other Commote called Coedrhaf or rather Coedtrath as I find it written is now put to the hundred of Narberth to make it complete for a greater part thereof was taken away from it and annexed to Carmarthenshire

Kilgarren Hundred is part of the Cantref of Emlyn and consists one fifth only of the said 3rd part of the said Cantref as anciently divided Iskeach, and to this day the said hundred is called of the inhabitants by the name Emlin Yskeach, the other part Ywchkeach being taken from Penbrokehire, and added to Carmarthenshire and is that part where the town of Newcastle stand.

I have many other matters fit to be spoken of each of these hundreds, which I here omitted in my second book of the description of the shire where I mean to handle each hundred and every parish in the same in particular, only the one thing I thought good to give note of, that at such time as the shires of Wales were divided into Hundreds that the same was done by allotting certain manors and lordships to make up every hundred, and not by allotting parishes together to make the same neither had they any respect of rivers, hills, mountains, or such like notable marks, which might well have served for good bounds or limits for every hundred. This is plainly to be perceived for that you find in diverse places, one parish divided into two hundreds and sometimes into two shires, as for example the parish of Brydell in Kilgerran hundred, part of which is in Kemes hundred, the like for Llanvair, the parish being part in Kemes and part in Dewisland, and the parishes of Kilrhedyn, Llandillio, Llangain, and Castell Dyram, are part in Penbrokehire and part in Carmarthenshire, each as they were parted before between the Lordships that were allotted to each shire or hundred, neither did they follow any straight way, path, river, or mark, to make the hundreds of good form, but took the Lansker as they found them to serve those manors which they allotted to every hundred, whereas the rivers of Taf or Clethe had been very good and apparent marks to have parted Carmarthen and Penbrokehire; yet both these shires reach over these rivers, sometimes Penbrokehire stretching close to and over Taf to Carmarthenshire; and again Camarthenshire reaching close to Clethe, making between both rivers diverse and even and crooked Lansker, such as parted the lordships of both shires before the division of hundreds.

Chapter VII

Of the manner of Husbandry and tilling of the Land and of the natural help and mendments of the soil itself yeildeth for bettering and mending of the Lands, as Lime, two kinds of Marle, Sand and Woze or Woade of the sea.

This country has of winter wheat only two sorts, that is, bended and knotted wheat as the husbands term it, the first having a beard along the ear, and the other having none but is bald and smooth. This knotted wheat is accounted the best and finest of both and is most used in the hundreds of Castle Martin, Narberth, and partly in Rhoose.

There is a third kind of wheat, not well known on other countryside, which is called holy wheat or summer wheat, this is found in the Welsh parts of this shire as also in Cardiganshire and is sowed in the later end of March and beginning of April and is a dainty grain like barley, and cannot endure to be pinched with cold, it is a very profitable grain and yealds more increase than the winter wheat it bears a great ears and stalk; The ground that this grain must have been well dunged and handled or else it will not prosper, the only discommodity of this corn is, it is long ripening, so that if the harvest is not very timely and the weather warm, it will hardly be saved, the bread of this wheat is said to be somewhat more brown in colour than the winter wheat but in all other things equals the best sort and I have very fair and white bread made of this kind of wheat so as no difference was to be found between it and the best winter wheat. This kind of wheat is also sowed in fold land which I shall describe to you hereafter, and thrives therein very well with once ploughed and sowing it in the greater sward.

That part of the shire inhabited by Welshmen as before followed their forefathers husbandry regard more of oats than of the former grains but yet in many places they used to sow barley in great plenty.

The causes why the mountain parts do use this tilling of oats whereas their land is good and apt enough to bear wheat are diverse, the one and not the least is the use thereof in ancient times and being brought up therein are loath to alter custom, although it be for the better; such force has custom in man's nature, one is the use of gravel kinde among many of these Welshmen, to part all the fathers patrimony equally among the sons so that in process of time the whole country was brought into small pieces of ground so as in every 5 or 6 acres you shall have ten or twelve pieces to remain champion; and without enclosures of hedges, and winter corn, if any sown among them, would be grazed all winter and eaten by sheep and other cattle which could not be avoided; for all the winter long the sheep and other cattle as are not in houses, range the fields without restraint over all the country; and there is this wheat and rye being eaten and trodden of cattle all the winter till mid March (would be half spoiled) when the weather waxes warmer, and the nights short; when the cattle are put into folds all night and kept before the herds all day.

This, in my opinion, was one chief cause they refrained from sowing winter corn.

But as now thence the use of gravel kind is abolished these three score years past, in many parts the ground is brought together by purchase and exchanges and hedging and enclosures much increased. And they fall to the tilling of this winter corn in greater abundance than before.

Another cause was and yet is, most of the country wanted hay, and in these Welsh parts there are greater breeds of cattle than the English parts can have by reason of the mountains and commons which they have not so great extent of; and therefore the oaten straw which is the finest fodder for cattle was the more desired use of their cattle in winter time.

Those be the reasons as I can gather why the Welshmen do more incline to till long oats than other grain.

But now to their order of tillage they seldom carry manure to their ground but use, for the most part running folds of hurdles of cloven oak, having the two side poles sharpened at the lower ends; with an iron bar they make holes in the earth, and with a sledge they set these hurdles fast in the ground in such sort as they are able to keep each other up. And these folds they will put upon some piece of ground where they mean to till in which they shut up their cattle every night, from mid March to mid November, this fold they move every three or four nights till the whole piece be thoroughly mucked; after this manner a piece of ground is prepared every year and in March they sow on it crops for which for 7, 8, or 10 years it is doomed to bear till the land becomes weak and barren that it will not yield the feed then let them lie for 8 or 10 years in pasture for their cattle, which long following the land with oats so weakening the land that it becomes very barren; for good husbands know that one crop of oats pulls down the pride of good ground very low, and therefore must this kind of tillage much harm the ground, yet cannot these doting husbands be drawn to forego their fathers folly. Neither do I commend this kind of folding, although it be a very good way to mend the land for in this sort 200 sheep and twenty other beasts will muck nigh two acres of ground in a whole summer season where as if they were kept in folds or yards upon straw or other bedding they would well make such amendments as would suffice for six acres of wheat or rye land; but in this they account saved the labour of carriage of this muck to the land intending to be sown and the twice or thrice ploughing and harrowing the same.

But the husbandmen that spareth pain spareth thrift.

The Welshmen plough commonly with two oxen and two horses before them, their land being shallow and light by reason of this ill kind of tillage used among them.

Among the English many have ploughs of horses alone, and oxen also, but commonly six beasts in their plough.

They use also in this country much beating and burning the land wherein they sow most commonly rye and sometimes barley which kind of tillage is also in two sorts either “clene bettland” or “pied bettland”.

The ‘clene bettland’ is dug up with the ‘bottax clene,’ leaving no part of the turf uncut, and in this they sow rye and sometimes wheat, as it requires; this they do in May, June and letting it lie with the grass side downwards till it becomes dry by sun and wind, and fit and apt to take fire; then they pile them in heaps and give it fire on the wind side till it consumes into ashes, which they spread in October and November; when they sow their rye which is said to be a great improving of the ground; for after the rye and one bad crop of oats no corn is to be had thereof for twenty or twenty four years, and for a year or two scarce any pasture.

In the most mountainous parts of this shire which is nothing but heath and small furze, and shallow with all this kind of ill husbandry may be borne, but husbandmen who use this kind of betting on the land which otherwise would be tilled to better advantage, are much to blame for doing themselves, the land, and the country harm.

The ‘pied bettland’ is that which is but half digging with the ‘bottax’, leaving half the turf whole and uncut which is burned as before so said; and in March the heapes of ashes being spread abroad, the husbandmen sows his corn which it bears great profit.

This ‘pied betland’ is found to endure larger in strength and to yeald more than the other ‘clene betted’ land for this will continue to bear oats well five or six years, whereas the other hath spent all its strength in two years. Some landlords having store of this barren land, found it more commodious to keep it in their own hands, then to rent it out at twelve pence an acre, which is the usual rent thereof; for in twenty years he hath but twenty shillings; whereas if he kept it void, and at

twenty years end till the same, most commonly the acre will yield him £4 *de claro* above all charges the first year besides the pasture of the ground all that space it lies without corn.

Now that I have briefly over run the tilling of the land. I will speak somewhat of the natural helps , which is in the country to better the land and to make it more fruitful and apt to bear corn and grain.

The chieftest therefore I reckon the **lime**, for that it is most commonly used and found to be less charge than the **marl**, which I take to be the best kind of these natural helps, yielding by the soil itself itself; and first you should understand that limestone is a vein of stones running his course for the most part right east and west, although sometimes the same is found to approach to the north and south, yet is the main course thereof, as I take it all other veins of this realm are also found from east to west.

Of this limestone therefore there is found of ancient, two veins, the one small and of no great account, which is first seen in the cliffs at Galtop, in the parish of Talbenny, and lying there very deep, is not dug out till it comes to Johnston ground which lies east of Galtop. At Johnston some is dug up but , but is scarce requites the charge , and therefore there is little use made of it; from Johnston it runs further eastwards and shows itself in the cliffs at Haroldston somewhat south of the old church there and so crosses over the first branch of Milford to Boulston Grounds where it is found again and burned, and goes on to Picton land and Slebech, and then crosses the other branch of Milford and holding eastward appears at Monckton by the wood and so eastwards to Ludchurch and then to the sea passing out of Penbrokeshire. This vein is not of breadth above a butt length or stone cast, and therefore whoever seeks southward or northward over the breadth misses it; but eastward and westward it is found to continue although not in every place, appearing by reason of its deep lying in the ground in some places. And although it be somewhat from my purpose to treat of matters out of Penbrokeshire yet because I have said that this vein of limestone naturally takes his course from East to west I will follow on the course of this vein so far as I have seen and learned the same. This vein continuing his course eastwards at Cronweare enters into the sea passing south of Earweare sheweth again at Castell Hobly and Pendine in Carmarthenshire and the passes under Laugharne Marsh appearing again at the wood in Laugharne, and holding still eastwards shows at Landstephen and from there enters in between the two rivers of Gwendraeth in Carmarthenshire and is found at the Glyn. Between the two said rivers of Gwendraeth there arises a great hill called Mynith Kyvor which runs eastward and is all limestone which passeth in the same course to Castell Kyrig Kynon and all along top of the Black mountains south of Capel Gwinsay by Blaen Cumgarw between the rivers Clydach and Aman and so by Llwyn y Constable and between the risings of the rivers Neath and Uske, to Blaen Cray, and to the great hill of Blaen Cwn Collwyn and so to Llanygwyne crossing the Usk to Tavarn y Maith fyr.

Further then which I have not learned the course of the said vein.

The other vein of limestone and the chief of the two begins at the mouth of Milford Haven west of the Nangle pile, where the one side of the pile you shall perceive the limestone, and the other a red stone, which for the most part accompanies this vein almost throughout being in colour and substance like a stone burned with fire. This vein of limestone is very broad, for southwards it goes till it reaches to the sea, both in Penbrokeshire, Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire and thereafter will I follow the northern limits thereof and so follow on eastwards as its general course runs. This vein is about seven miles distant from the former, more southerly than it and so or nearly they continue together as shall be declared.

But now to my purpose; the northern limits of this vein passes as the former did right eastward and goes to Peter Church^[Paterchurch now Pembroke Dock] then to Williamston by Carew and so eastwards to St Florence and to the northern side of the town of Tenby, where between it and the windmills it also goes to the sea; and still continuing an easterly course, there it passes under the sea, there as reason and the course therefore leads us to think, shows itself east of Tenby in the cliffs at Llandridion in Gower, being, as we may judge about twenty miles from Tenby; all under the salt water from Llandridion, it passes right east through Gower to the Mumbles by Oystermouth, leaving all the country between it and the sea, all of limestone; but more northerly it is not to be found.

At Mumbles the sea cometh more northerly than the vein, therefore at the Mumbles it goes again under the salt water and continuing right east is found again at the sea side at Kynfig Water a little above Margam; and from thence passes all the sweet and fruitful vale of Glamorgan. All along under the mountains to Keven Mably where it passes over the river Rumney, it enters Monmouthshire and is found at or near Tombarlon Hill; and from hence eastward course through Monmouthshire directly towards Chepstow town there crossing the river Wye intending itself into the forest of Deane to the beacon above Walcaston from thence it passes to Aust, and there crossing goes towards Sudbury; but where the northern Lansker there is I know not yet, but I find it Bristolward at Westbury and so to Bristol all the eastward till you come to the hill, right over against that city; and there, I take it, turned into a kind of freestone, which also in that place is burned into lime.

This digression concerning these two veins of limestone, taking their origin here in in Penbrokeshire, I have thought good to insert in this place; for at the request of a dear friend of mine, and famous for his learning, I took some pains about it, and finding the natural course thereof to be as before, a thing perchance not so well noted as fit to be known, and being noted and known it may be a guide to some parties to seek the limestone whereas yet it is hidden, and may save labour to others in seeking it, where there is no possibility to find it.

For the vein of coals which is found between those two veins of limestone, as a benefit of nature; without which the profit of the limestone were near lost, though in some places they burn it with wood, I will defer to speak of it hereafter, where I mean of the several sorts of fuel in Penbrokeshire; only this I think to say in this place that between the said two veins, from the beginning to the end, there is a vein (if not several veins of coals) that follow those of the limestone, and serve for a principle fuel in most countries where it is found, and carried into foreign parts also if the commodiousness of the sea do so permit This vein of coal in some parts joys close to the first limestone vein as in Penbrokeshire and Carmarthenshire and in some it is found close to the other vein of limestone as in Glamorgan, Monmouth and Somersetshire. Therefore whether I shall say there are two veins of coal between these two veins of limestone, or to imagine coal should wreath or turn itself in some places to one, and in other places to the other; or to think that all the land between these two veins should be stored with coal; I leave to the judgement of the skilful miners or those which with deep knowledge have entered into these hidden features.

There is also a third vein of limestone found in Penbrokeshire, more northerly than the other two, discovered more of late than in years past and found in places where it was not known to be, and as I judge, to be in places where it yet lies hidden. It has been lately found near Clarbeston and Bullhook and is a browner stone and burned into browner lime than the former, as profitable for the land and building as any of the rest but not so fair in colour for plaster. This stone is softer and not so grey and hard as the former quarries, and is but smaller and narrow for as not much above three of four foot broad and it has been used in times past for marl, as shall be declared hereafter. This vein seems to hold the same course as his former fellows, that is east and west; but for that this place already named, is the furthest part westerly that it has been yet fought in. I will a little touch the easterly course thereof east of Bullhooke and Clarbeston before three miles at the spring of the

river Marlais above Llwyngwaran, in a piece of the Churchland where it has been lately sought for and found and from thence as I guess it goes to Llanbedr town where it has been anciently found and dug in great abundance; and then it hides itself, or at least is not sought for, till it comes to Clog y Vrance in Llangyntn parish in Carmarthenshire, which is five miles from Llanbedr, where it has been raised for many years past and is found to be the same small stone both in the smallness of the vein and the brown of colour. From Clog y Vrane eastwards I hear not of this vein any more until I came to Droslywyn Castle Langathen where it is found a growing in quantity and quality as I have said before; and in another place I am much deceived if I did not see this vein of stone less than a mile out of Brecknock town near a farm house called Traffyng belonging(as I guess) to the priory of Brecknock. Now if this limestone vein should follow this course westerly as the other two do, and as by nature thereof, and all probabilities it does then may the neighbours which dwell directly west of Blethenston and Bullhooke be somewhat animated to seek this good relation of theirs which would be a joyful thing unto them, and therefore it were not a miss to try which way this vein should be found westerly which is in the grounds about Walton and Spittell and between Camrose on to Brawdy and to Eweston or Oweston in Dewisland for here are coal pits where coal has been dug which is a great argument that the lime vein is not far off as the one is most commonly found to accompany the other.

But this vein is now hardly hit upon and found yet should not the industrious husband despair or neglect hoping that God bless his good endeavours.

Now after my long digression out of Penbrokeshire it beholds me to return to my former purpose and show how the husbandmen of the country make their benefit of this in bettering the land therewith.

This limestone being dug in the quarry in great stones, is hewed lesser to the bigness of a mans fist and less to the to the end they might the sooner burn through; and being hewed small the same is put into a kiln, made of wall, six foot high, four or five feet broad at the brim but growing narrower to the bottom having two loop holes at the bottom, which they call the kiln eyes. In this kiln first is made a fire of coals or rather culm, which is but the dust of coal which is laid at the bottom of the kiln with a few sticks of wood to kindle the fire; then is the kiln filled with these small hewed pieces of limestone and then fire being given the same burns and makes the limestone to become red fiery coals; which being done and the fire quenched, the lime so burned is suffered to cool in the Kiln, and then is drawn out through these kiln eyes; and in this sort carried to the land, where it is laid in heaps, the next shower of rain makes it to moulder and fall as dust which they spread on the land and so sow wheat or barley therein, as the time of year requires, but in the lower parts of the shire where the lime is most used, and their land very dry of itself, they are forced to muck their land the first year with the lime; the reason of which as I guess is the extreme heat of the same lime being in full strength where the land being dry itself becomes so hot, that it requires some moisture to season it or otherwise the growth and prosperity of the corn would be hindered, which is best nourished by a temperate disposition of heat and moisture. But in the mountains, where the ground is rather too cold the lime being cast thereon, the same brings forth fair corn, without any muck at all the first year and thus amended bears great abundance of corn for six or seven years. This trade of liming has been more used within these thirty or forty years past and it destroys the furze, fern heath and other like shrubs, growing on the land, producing a fine sweet grass and quite changes the hue and face of the ground to the great enrichment of those who have used it; but in some parts where it has been most used in times past, it is now changed for a kind of husbandry (as they take it) lately found out, which is, sanding their ground, as shall be declared hereafter.

The next and chief kind of mending of the land is the clay marl so called for difference between it and the sea marl; this kind of clay marl is dug out of the earth where it is found in great quantities and though to be in round great heaps and lumps of earth nature fat tough and clammy and must be

cast and set in the ground very thick in small pieces that it must cover all the ground. The opinion of the country people where this marl is found is that it is the fatness of the earth gathered together at Noahs flood when the earth was covered with the said flood a whole year and with the surging and tossing of the said flood, the fat of the mud being clammy and slimy of nature did gather to together and by rolling upon the earth became round in form and when the flood departed from the face of the earth the same was left dry in sundry parts which is now this marl. How the common people came to this opinion I know not, but it is very likely to be true for wherever the same appears it is lapped and covered with sand, gravel and round pebble stones, such as you shall find at the sea side, it is very plainly appearing that the stones have been worn by the sea or some swift river, also in the heart of the marl is formed diverse sorts of shells of fish as cockle shells mussel shells and the such like, some altogether rotted and some yet unrotted; as also we shall therein find pieces of timber that have been hewed with edge tools and fire brands, the one end burned, and diverse other things which have been before time used and this twenty foot and more deep in the earth in places that have been dug before and over which great oaks are now growing; and this seven of eight miles from the sea so that it is very probable that the same came unto those places at the great and general flood.

They use the marl thus; it is dug out of the pit carried to the land and there cast either upon the fallow or lay ground unploughed, and thus in the summer time, in the months of May, June, July and August or after harvest, and at all times of the year fit for casting of it if the weather be fine, where it lies so on the ground all the summer and winter, the rain making it to melt and run like molten lead over all the face of the earth and if it is be cast on fallow it bears barley the next May and if it be cast on lay ground the same is sown with oats and every year for twelve or fourteen years together without giving any other amendment, and yields corn very pure, clean of much yielding exceeding the little kind of corn being otherwise tilled both on the land, the barn floor and in the mill. It will carry barley, wheat and peas continually for twenty years without dung and holds for many years after bearing of corn; being dunged once every three years it will not seek to have any rest or pausing time to recover heart. If the land before bore either furze, fern, heath, broom or any other kind of shrubs, the marl will utterly destroy it, and cause the ground be it never so ill conditioned before to bring forth fine grass full of the herb called trifolium or three leaved grass, and of the country people honey suckle both white and red, so that in the former times the land will be covered with these flowers and look with a claret colour mingled with white and red, and will yield a most pleasant and fragrant odour and smell proceeding from these sweet flowers. I count this kind of amendment, the best of all others found in this part of Wales. This marl is of colour with us most common blue, and in some places red.

Plyne, who wrote several chapters of this marl in his natural history says it is to be found in France and Brittain, and is of sundrie colours, as *alba, rufa, colombina argillacea, barrenacca*; he also describes the substance thereof, calling it *adepts terre ac valut glandis in abore denfante fe pinguetudinis nuclea*.

This marl being fat and clammy is of nature fertile and binding, and therefore is to be cast on barren land; first if the land is moist, the lime rather serves than this; sandy ground is found to be much amended with marl, for it being loose and dry, it is brought to a good soil for corn and grass; yet it is very hard to dig by reason of the toughness like to wax, for the spade or mattock being stroken into it is hardly drawn out again so fast is it held; it is a heavy substance and therefore hard to be carried especially up hill so that it is chargeable; but all things being consided it pays the commodities the charge every year after; this I speak by my own experience.

Marl long hence was much used about a hundred or one hundred and sixty years past as appears by the land marled and many ancient marl pits yet extant, but it was wholly neglected till about twenty four years ago, that diverse poor people began to find commodity thereby. It is found by proof to continue good to bring corn and grass for a hundred and a hundred and sixty years together; for

there are many pieces of land known to have been above a hundred years past, and yet continue under corn to this day, and found to be good. This marl is found in Kemes and both Emlyns, from Dinas up to Penboyr in Carmarthenshire; being about twenty miles in length and about four in breadth, in most places to the sea side and out of the compass. I cannot hear that the same is found, I think more for want of industry than otherwise; for if this kind of marl be the fatness of the earth gathered together by the deluge, as it is very probable, the feeling the deluge was over all the face of the earth, I see no reason but the same though be also found in most countries; and who so list to learn more of this marl let him peruse a pamphlet which I have written thereof. Wherein I have declared the nature of the marl, how to know it and find it and the order at large of digging, and laying it on the land, the several sorts thereof for what it is good, and for what it is ill; and so for brevity sake I cease here to report any more thereof.

The third kind of amendments for the land that this country yields is the stone marl, this being a kind of stone dug out of a quarry, and being laid on the land, cast yearly on a slice of land which in the process of time does so mend ground that neither the lime nor the clay marl goes beyond it and carries corn and grass in great abundance. These stones may not be removed from the land for then the ground decays. The discommodity of this marl is the land will be long before it comes to yield crops, for, that the next twelve years after the mending of it yields small or no profit because the stones have not cast sufficiently on the soil and therefore this kind of marling is neglected for these many years; for I know not of any now living that have seen land amended with this stone marl but there are extant many goodly fields full to this day, that have been mended with this stone, before the memory of any man living; this was much used about Picton, Slebech, Wiston, Clarboston and Llawhaden and in many places adjoining where the best land is of this sort and the stones found in great plenty yet in this land. The quarries of this kind of marl are found at Slebech, and the parts adjacent; and it is said that it will be burned into lime, and that it is a sort kind of limestone, but in substance very gravelly; this is of all accompanied the most durable though long ere it comes to profit.

The fourth kind amendment that this country yields is the sea sand which is found in many places, but not in all parts of the sea coast

What is found at Newport, Dinas and about these shores is reckoned the best and the people knowing this do use upon spring tides or after great storms of the sea, at which time the sea will cast the same in more abundance together in great heaps and lay it out of the full sea mark, and there hence fetch in sacks on horseback and carry the same three, four or five miles, and cast it on the land, which doth very much better the ground for corn and grass but this endures not past six or eight years. This also is much used in Cardigan, Mount Verwick and Llangoedmor in Cardiganshire, where it bringeth forth the best barley, the most clean, and the greater abundance, greatly enriching the husbandmen there.

I have seen of late years at Freshwater east in Castlemartin hundred where they have dug sand out of the coney burrows which is not at any time overflowed with the sea, and have cast the same on their land; and I have heard from many an honest and good husbandmen that they find this kind of husbandry more profitable than the lime which they used as manure on their land in so much that they have always practised and have taken to casting of this kind of dry sand so that by their experience it should seem to excel both lime and sea sand for fortifying of the earth; this practise in Castlemartin has not been used past six or seven years but with good success.

It has been said by former writers that the ooze or slime sea carried and laid on proved profitable, but this has not been used by any any of this country that I could hear off, yet doth the sea yield plenty of it in creeks and havens.

The sea ore(as some call it) which is various weeds growing under water in the sea, which is torn up by tempest and riggers of the sea and cast on shore with the wind and tide and under low water mark may be gathered and cut off the stones. The same is used of many rather as muck or dung (serving for one year only) than to be accompanied among the former durable kinds of amendment. This kind of ore they gather and lay it in great heaps where it heats and rots and will have a strong and loathsome smell, which being so rotten they cast on the ground as they do their muck and thereof springeth good corn especially barley.

It is a saying among the countrymen of the continuance of these aforesaid amendments that a man does sand for himself, lime for his children and marl for his grandchild thereby describing and comparing the durability of each kind thereof.

Chapter VIII

Of the manner and order of Buildings, both of Towns, Castles, Churches, and Houses, used in this country, and of the Quarry's of Stones that are found fit and serving for that purpose

Touching the buildings of this country, the same is altogether of stone and not of timber which I think was in former times more commodiousness of the abundance of foundries and several sorts of stone fit for building, than want of timber; for that in old times there was in many places of the country sufficient wood wherewith to have framed fair buildings but now and henceforth they must continue the former manner of building with stone for want of wood, and shall have much a do to find timber for other uses. The buildings of the ancient castles were of lime and stone, so very strong that none of the masons of this age can do the like, for although all or most of them have endured for diverse hundred years past, yet as they such wise knit together, as if the lime and stone did incorporate the one to the other, and it were easier to dig stones out of the main rock, than to pull down an old wall and to take stone out of the same; whereas, if you break a wall but twenty or thirty years past, you may take with ease and pull out the stones thereof, whereby it appears that the workmen of this age are not so skilful, or at least so careful as those of former ages, wherein is verified an adage of the former ages or a usual proverb in the British or Welsh tongue, *Gwaeth-gwaeth maen Saer, well well pren Saer* which is that *the masons shall grow worse and worse, and the carpenters better and better till the world's end*. The masons were skillful in old time in these countries, that most castles and houses of any accompany were built with vaults, very strongly and substantially wrought, containing in good estate and you shall find many houses of good accommodation that had few or no lofts, but all vaults especially for the kitchen, cellars, larders, brew houses; whereas now in all new buildings these vaults are neglected, and in the ancient times you shall find that the roofs of diverse churches and chapels were all vaulted over, and that of great height, whereof many be yet standing, as Warren, St Daniels Chapel by Pembroke, Flimston and the chapel of Llawhadden, with many others of those kinds of buildings with vaults, which were most common in the parts near Pembroke, the hundred of Narberth, and in places where lime was at hand, and where they built all with lime, but in Kemes, Kilgarran and Dewisland where lime is wanted, those kinds of strong buildings are not so common to be seen for in these parts where there is no lime they used mortar of clay or earth to make their stone walls, and herein it seems that nature has provided for the needs of all those parts; for in those parts where lime is to be had for mortar, there the stones are round and smooth, and as if the lime were not as it were to glue them together, there could no building be substantial; and the contrary in Kemes and other parts where lime wanted, there has nature afforded a different kind of stone being thick flat and very broad, which serves with the mortar of clay only to build a wall more harder to break than that with lime, and the small square stones. You may get these flat stones of four or five foot long and three or four foot broad, and of what thickness you please to cleave the same, which kind of stone most commonly being straight and smooth, as though the same had been hewn and planed, and being of that length and breadth makes the wall very strong and firm, so that it is impossible to take those stones out of the middle of any wall.

Of these two sorts of walling are all the buildings in this country, but that with lime is most strong and most durable, yet it is accompanied with a shrewd discommodity, which is, that the wall made of lime of this country continues for ever moist in itself, and thereby makes all the rooms damp and apt to corrupt with rust and rotting any thing that is kept in the room, especially if it be iron, writings or the like, whereby in this preset age, the armour will not endure in this country half the time it will do in the inland counties of England; for let the armour be cleaned ever so well, and put in this building in one week it will grow rusty. What should be the cause thereof I cannot judge, but

a natural instinct grafted in the stones or lime; for in these buildings you shall find the very stones in the wall against wet weather to sweat with great drops of water, and all the walls in the house to be weeping and covered with streams of water running down; and this persuaded me to be one of the causes why in old buildings are found so many vaults and so few lofts for that in these watery walls the beams in short time do rot and so the lofts decay. But in the other parts of the country where the buildings are made of stone and clay mortar, the walls are not of that nature but do continue dry, and yet not so dry but that sometimes before wet weather they will shew some signs of moistness and these last walls are for the most part accounted wholesome dwellings than the former, or less subject to corruption.

Now as concerning the several sorts stones that are fit for building, and serving for diverse purposes,

I reckon first the **limestone** which is no less fit for walling than burn for mortar, and will not only endure to be hewn with tools but will be brought to a shine with a fair glaze like the marble and is inlaid with grey sparkes, which much beautify the same.

Next unto this limestone for building is the **Norton Stone**, being a kind freestone but in colour a dark grey, which does make good grindstones, as also mustard mills.; this stone is easily hewn to make windows, doors, chimneys, arches, commemorators and water barges or any other hewn work and in colour excepted, in goodness and strength against the force and fretting of the sea wind, passed the Harleburg quarry of Somersetshire, for this stone being far fetches and dearly bought is found to be eaten with the sea wind into small pieces as snails do eat fruit under trees, and in the end are consumed to nought, and therefore are found by experience unserviceable for this country, save for mantel trees for chimneys or other work within doors.

This stone I call by the name of Nolton stone for that it is found there and thereof takes the name but the same is found in most of the sea cliffs round about the shire, especially near Newport, where there is a great stone, and different in colour some veins white, some yellow and most grey; most of the ancient castles have much of this kind of stone, which continues perfect to these days, a good proof of long during. It has besides a special property to endure the force of fire; for of this I have seen a glassmaker make his furnace which did bear the extreme heat of his occupation, which no other stones of this country could abide.

There is also found in the cliffs about St Davids another kind of hewed stone profitable in continuing, which is dug in very great and large blocks, as some four foot square; of this the cathedral church of St David the Bishops palace, and diverse other of the canons houses, are built; it is brown of colour and some of it darke red, much like the stone of college at Worcester, and is easily hewn to any form.

Next there is a stone found in the mountains above Newport, and in Coed Cadw in Nevern parish, large and tough, yet easy in hewing and most commonly full of little holes. As these stones rise in vast masses so therefore you may make large mantels for chimneys of one stone and out of three stones the whole frame. One pillar from every side and another to cover the same, either arch wise or square as you please. This stone serves to for cornerstone windows and gates and is very strong and profitable in building; but above all things is served best for stairs as a stone whereon a man may boldly tread without sliding by reason of the roughness thereof, which will not be worn smooth and slippery as the limestone and most other stones will.

There is another kind of freestone, which for fastness and colour passes all yet spoken of, which is a blood red stone and will be hewn very well and make fine work; this is very perfected mixed with brown, and will serve to make fair and large windows, mantel tree and other hewn work, both

within and without the house and against weather is most durable. This in my simple opinion, for the buildings of this country were most profitable and beautiful ; for as in England where where the buildings are mostly of brick, and in colour red there is desired the white freestone for windows and doors because of the beauty thereof; so in this country where all our walls are white by reason the lime; doors and windows of this stone would make the like variety and muster to the eye, and would be very delightful to behold. This stone is not so received of it deserves; it is found in Moelgrove in the corn fields lying loose in the plain grounds and not in any quarries and rises sometimes very large; it is also found in the sea cliffs there and in many other places if it was fought for, for I find it in many places in the ruins of the abbey of St Dogmells and therefore of likelihood not far off to be found. Of other walling stones there is such abundance and of such different sorts, differing from each parish that to speak particularly thereof, it were both superfluous, infinite, and unnecessary yet they do serve many purposes as walling, hedging and such like.

Now having described the chief sorts of stones serving for building it comes in course to speak of the **slates** and **tiling** stones which abound in diverse places of the country, and are of diverse qualities, but generally very plain smooth and fair, black and blue in colour, nothing inferior to those set from beyond the seas, which are laid on the Royal Exchange, as also on several houses in the city of London. This stone is found about Newport and Dinas, in Kemes, in the sea, are there quarried and carried by water to Haverford, Pembroke and Tenby, and to diverse parts of Ireland, sometimes sell dear and sometime cheap, as the plenty and scarcity in those towns do require. But the best sort of these stones are found about two miles from the sea at Coed Cadw in the parish of Nevern, which excel those of Newport in all the former qualities; and in one thing is to be noted, that in these stones there is found lumps of metal shining like perfect copper, and to view nothing different from molten metal and in weight mass and heavy, but brittle; well beaten into powder to what perfection this might be brought has not yet been tried.

Next to the black and blue tile is the red tile, being of a light red colour , in use very durable and hard, in all respects equal with the former, differing only in colour of which also there is great plenty, and sent to the great towns as the former.

The third is a russet stone, more large and rougher than the other two, but more profitable to the owner, for his house be timbered thereafter, and the lathes and nails agreeable; this stone is dug very large, three foot, and four foot long which laid on of that bigness cleaves more fast than the rest, and therefore the lime taking better hold than between the smoother stones, during the longer on the house; these stones being well laid on by a good workman, and of good bond endures well sixty years and more; for there are some houses covered with these slates that scarce any person living has seen a Tyler on their roofs. With these the great Friary at St Dogwell's is covered many years thence. The best stones of this kind are found at Pant y Gwenundy, Coom Dogwell, Llantood Henllis and almost in every quarry between the river Nevern and the sea. This kind of stone serves also for walling in Kemes and Kilgerran hundreds, for in the quarry it is to be found to lie in great flakes always leaning to the south, so that you must begin the quarry from the north so shall you have the back of the quarry towards you and dug it with ease; for it is found by experience that all the quarries of this broad kind of stone are cast southward so that always you begin it from the north and follow southward, and then shall you find the quarry loose before you. This is thought to be done by the violence of the general flood which at the departing thereof fell southwards and tore the earth in pieces and separated the islands from the continent, and made the hills and valleys as we now find them. and turned the course of the springs and rivers which was thought to be in another form at the first creation thereof.

These in effect are the kinds of stone worth the noting, which experience has brought to light but Mr Hollingshed speaks upon what certainty I know not, that at St Davids there is marble and alabaster

to be found; but I could never hear of any found by any man; but on the mountains of Precelly there are many loose stones found which are very hard and smooth of grit and have, in diverse of them many white sparkes and veins but of these stones were never yet any hewn, neither is it known to what perfection the same might be brought if skillful workmen had the handling there of, for, if they might be hewn with tools, doubtless for any quality else, they would be little inferior to the marble.

Also on the top of Moeltrigarn in Whitchurch being a very high mountain I found there great store of loose stones which were very white of colour, and would be cut with a knife. Whether the whole rock be of this stone, or to what it might be turned it has not been proved by many.

And now to close up I will end with speaking of a strange kind of stone found in a brook in Precelly which is coal black in colour and soft and its property is to colour upon anything that it is rubbed on much like black lead; but that which is most strange, it serves to mark sheep; for country people taking two of these stones rub them against the other being wet and with the same rubbing their white sheep marking them with an azure blue colour which without any other thing will remain all the winter very plain to be seen on the wool which argues that this stone has come clammy substance in it which makes it stick to the wool and all the storms and showers of winter cannot wash the same away. To give a colour there are many things but to cause this to stick on against the force of weather there must be some strange properties in it besides the colouring. This kind of stone is found in a little rill of water descending from the Precelly hills in the parish of Meliney and the country people call it *nod glas* which in English is blue raddle or blue marking stone.

Chapter IX

Of the Castles, Forts and Strong Holds, in this Shire , and the Cities and Towns thereof.

Concerning the first building of castles and towns of this country, I had once determined to have written thereof a part by itself but afterwards looking to the end of my work I saw, if I so did I should be forced to write twice of each of them, and so to litterate my words which were labour lost and tedious to the reader and therefore I have deferred to speak thereof till I come to treat of each particular parish and places of note within the same ; whereof I will deliver my knowledge of each town and castle and what memorials I have seen or read touching them as a place more fit and apt to treat thereof than here. Only one general note I think good to give in this place, that all the towns and castles of this country for the most part were built by our conqueror, Earl Strongbow and his knights to whom he gave the land and to their posterities, as places in which to defend themselves against the incursions of the princes of Wales; for that such towns and castles as were built before the coming of the said Earl Strongbow were so altered and transformed by his coming as that the former state there of is utterly forgotten, only some ancient names and nothing else remains. Neither is it known perfectly what towns and castles were here before their coming nor in what state of ability or strength they were, for until the coming of Strongbow hither, the country of Dyfed was never conquered either by the Romans, Saxons, Danes or Normans ; but the ancient inhabitants still continued their possessions, although diverse times interrupted by sudden skirmishes by land and spoilers from sea. Only the city of St David's and the territories thereabouts, even after Strongbow's coming, continued under the same masters as before, for that the conquerors protected the same as holy land, consecrated to the servants of God and was therefore counted among the bloody men an impiety to offer violence to any land or people being in the possession of the church; though in these days of peace, our served consciences will not blush to take it and to snatch away part of the church livings, yea and the church itself if we see it but hang loose, so are the minds of men altering with time until time turn men into dust.

Chapter X

Of the several sorts of fuel that the Country yields.

The several kind of fuel that serves the inhabitants of this shire are, wood, sea coal, turf, furze, both French and tame broom, fern, and heath, all of which are used in several parts of the shire, and for several purposes:

And first for **wood**; this country groans with the general complaints of other countries, of the decreasing of wood, for I find, by matter of record, that diverse great corn fields were in times past great forests and woods. The best standing woods at this present in Penbrokeshire, where with the country is served for buildings necessities are these that followed
Narberth Forest, Kilgarren, Coedtraeth, Caneston, Mynwer, Pencelly, Kilreath, Hooke Wood, Upton,

Woods of diverse gentlemen sufficient to serve their houses of fuel and some for buildings are —
Picton, Bulston, Wiston, Coed Kanles, Llannerch, Killkythed, Dyffrin Gweyn, Angoed, Henllys, and Wenallt, Benton, Throstwood, Llwyngwair, Pearneshush, Perskily, Upper Talch, Neither Talch, Creswell, Mote, Walton, Woodstock, Western Trefgarn, Eastern Trefgarn, Llognygorres, Drim, Nashe, Langwn

Woods and forests in times past, and now destroyed, and arable lands were -Llydiarth Forest, Rywgran, Moelgrove, Coed Cadw, Coed Llonk, Mountain Park, the wood by Newgale, Cron Lloyn. With these woods and others of the meaner sort which I cannot remember, most of the gentlemen of the shire are well served with wood for their fuel; but for the most part, those that dwell near the coal, or that may have it carried by water with ease use, most coal fires in their kitchens, and some in their halls because it is a ready fire and very good and sweet to roast and boil meat and void of smoke, where all chimneys are, and does not require a man's labour to cleave wood and feed the fire continually.

Next unto the wood, or rather to be preferred before it for fuel, is **coal** fire, for the generalities of it, as that which serves most people and especially the chief towns. This coal may be nominate as one of the chief commodities of this country, as without it the country would be in great distress. It is called stone coal for the hardness thereof, and is burned in chimneys and grates of iron; and being once kindled giveth a greater heat then light and delights to burn in dark places: it serves also for smiths to work with, though not so well as the other kind of coal called running coal, for that, when it first kindled, it melts and runs as wax, and grows into one clod; whereas this stone coal burns a part and never cling together. This kind of coal is not noisome for smoke nor nothing so loathsome for the smell as the running coal is, whose smoke annoys all things near it, as fine linen, men's hands that warm themselves by it; but this stone coal burns giving in a manner no smoke after it is kindled, and is so pure that fine camerick of lawn is usually dried buy it, without any strain of blemish, and is a most proved good dryer of malt, therein passing wood fern or straw.

This coal for the rare properties thereof was carried our of this country to the city of London to the late lord treasurer Burley, by a gentleman of experience, to show how far the same excelled that of Newcastle, wherewith the city of London is served; and I think, if the passage were not so tedious there would be a great use made of it.

And now that I am come to entreat of this our countries coals, I must remember my promise made before, where I spoke of the veins of limestone, which I said was found to accompany the veins of coals. And therefore I will, in as few words as I can show you the natural course of this coal, and how the same does accompany the limestone vein.

I said that I found our two veins of limestone, to have their original here in Penbrokeshire and that theirs course holds eastward, as before I have declared at large. Between both which veins of

limestone the coal is found to follow, though not so open as the limestone in every place with the limestone; but in many places where the stone shows, the coal hides himself; and where the coal is found, sometimes the limestone lurks underground; but in many places they are found near together. And first, our coals have been found near Talbenny and so follow to Johnston, and there found; then to Freystrop great store and so to Picton; it is also found by the southern vein limestone at Jeffreston, and from thence to Begelly. This first vein of coal follows the first vein of limestone, keeping in the south side of it to the water and so to the mouth of Towye, over the bar of Carmarthen, where the very vein of coal is found in the bar, by sounding, and so through all Carmarthenshire and Bredknockshire, on to Monmouthshire as I have before declared the course of that Limestone vein.

The other vein of coal which I spoke of at Jeffrestone accompanied the second vein of limestone on the north side thereof, within half a mile of the limestone and passes east to Sanderfoot, and there with the limestone into the sea; and shows again near Llanydian and Loughor, as I said before. And so through Gower, to the Mumbles, and under the sea over Kynfig Water, and through all Glamorgan and Monmouthshire, over Aust and to Bristol; the coal always accompanying the limestone a mile on the north of it: but in this course of both the veins of limestone and coal, one thing is to be noted, that the further east the veins run, the softer grows both the coal and limestone, and the easier to be dug.

The digging of this coal is of ancient times used in Penbrokeshire, but not in such extent and skilfull sort as now it is; for in former times they used not engines for lifting up of the coals out of the pit but made their entrances slope, so as the people carried the coals upon their backs along stairs which they called landwayes: whereas now they sink their pits down right four square about six or seven foot square and with a windlass turned by four men, they draw up the coals a barrel full at once by rope: this they call a downright dore. The lords of the land have either rent or the third barrel, after all charges of the work deducted.

The coal is first found by a small appearance thereof, which they call edge, which being found, they search which way the vein leans, and on the contrary side they begin to sink for the coal is found to lie slope in the ground, and seldom down right; the coal being found the workmen follow the vein every way, until it ends, or be letted by water or rock, the vein will not be for the most parts passing five or six feet deep so that the coal is carried stooping; for they commonly leave a foot of coal in the bottom undug to serve for a strong foundation, except they find the rock underfoot which they call the *Deen Stone* which if they find then they dig clean all the coal and further then that stone they look for no coal; and overhead they are driven to timber their work to keep the earth from falling, which is chargeable; but in some grounds they have a rock above, and then they save much labour and cost in sparing of timber.

In these works the water springs are troublesome, which they avoid by sinking a great pit right under the dore, to which all the water will run, and from thence draw it up with a windlass, by barrells or else by making a level (as they call it) which is by a way dug under ground, somewhat lower then the work, to bring a passage for the water; this is very chargeable, and may cost sometimes £20. and often more.

They now most commonly sink down right twelve, sixteen or twenty fathoms before they come to the coal, whereas in old times four fathoms was counted a great labour; when they find it, they work sundries holes, one for every digger some two, some three or four, as the number of diggers are; each man working by candlelight and sitting while he works; then having the bearers which are boys that bear the coals in baskets on their backs, going always stooping, by reason of the lowness of the pit; each bearer carries this basket six fathom, where upon a bench of stone he laid it; where meets him another boy with an empty basket, which he giveth him, and takes that which is full of

coals, and carries it as far where another meets him, and so till they come under the dore, where it is lifted up.

In one pit where will be sixteen persons, whereof there will be three pickaxes digging seven bearers, one filler, four winders, two riddles who riddle the coals when it is landed, first to draw the small coal from the big, by one kind of riddle, then the second riddling with a smaller riddle, with which they draw smaller coals for the smiths from the culm, which is indeed very dust, which serves for lime burning. These persons will land about eighty or a hundred barrels of coal in a day. Their tools about this work are pickaxes with a round pole, wedges and sledges to batter the rocks that cross their work.

All times of the year in indifferent for working, but the hot weather worst by reason of sodaine [sudden] damps that happen which often times cause the workmen to found and will not suffer the candles to burn, but the flame waxing blue of colour, will of themselves go out. They work from six a clock to six a clock, and rest an hour at noon, and eat their allowance as they term it, which is 6d in bread to every man, and 4d in drink among a dozen: this is of custom on the charge of the pit, although they work on their own charge. All their work is by candlelight through out the year.

The coal they find is either an ore coal, a string, or a slatche, as I have learned their terms. The ore is the best and is a great vein spreading every way and enduring longest; The string is a small narrow vein, sometimes two, three, or four foot in bigness, and runs down right, and is always found between two rocks; a slatche they call a piece of coal by itself found in the earth is quickly dug about, and no more to be found of the piece. The first of those three sorts is the best, then the next, and the last counted worst of all.

The dangers in digging these coals, is the falling of the earth, and quelling the poor, or stopping of the way forth and so die by famine, or else the sudden irruption of standing waters in old works. The workmen of this black labour observe all abolished holy days, and cannot be waived from that folly

About three years past there was a general and new imposition or custom raised upon the coal, throughout the realm which was for every cauldron transported Her Majesty shall have the custom at the rate of 4d for every barrel where as the price of the barrel is but 6d so that the custom is nearly as much as the price of the coal, and the like custom was demanded for the culm which was sold but for one pence the barrel, for which the Irishmen who are served from this country and the seamen greatly complained, alleging their trade impaired, and it would turn to the decay of shipping; but the country people well liked of it as that might be the means to stay the transport, which had greatly enhanced the price, and is feared that in time will wholly wear out the coal and so leave the country destitute of fuel; but upon complaint of Her Majesties subjects in Ireland, this impediment is remitted for the Irishmen.

Next unto the coal, the chief fuel is **peat**, called commonly turf which is a kind of black rotten earth and is found in low moors where standing water annoys the ground and in the top of the high and wet mountains of Precelly where it is dug in great plenty. Most of the people adjoining to this mountain use this kind of fuel which being well used is singular good, but if the same be either ill seasoned or ill placed to burn in the house as out of chimneys, the smell thereof is loathsome, which is the only discommodity of this fuel, for otherwise it is a little inferior to coal.

There is a great difference of these turfs according to the place where it has grown. Some being very good yielding a better heat and sweet without ill favour, other worse in burning and having a loathsome smell; the best of which leaves small or no ashes behind it, and those of white in colour; the other that leaves great quantity of ashes, and that gravelly and reddish, black and brown in colour, is accounted of a worse kind. These turfs are dug with an iron for the purpose and made in form square, two inches like bars of iron about a foot long. When they are dig they are carried out of

the pit, and being half dry, piled upon end every 5 or 6 together to dry, and being thus dried thoroughly they are led home and laid then up in dry rooms to use at need.

There have been great proposals made by men of experience to bring this kind of fuel to be very commodious for the realm; and as I have heard, some have obtained a monopoly of the same as to turn it to charcoal, to make it burn without annoyance, but what success it takes I have not learned, yet I am persuaded that it might be brought to far better perfection than it is as the common people use it; for I have heard that in some parts of the Realm, it serves for iron workers; and in Cardiganshire, it is said, that the smiths work with them; but if by the industry of some good and well practised man it might be brought to any good perfection doubtless it would prove very beneficial to the whole commons of this this country; for that the mountains do yield thereof such plenty as would ever serve and continue.

Guicherdyn in his description of Holland , commends this as a principle and the second chief commodity of that province; that the custom therof paid in one town only amount in the year to 3000 ducat's to the king of Spain.

The fourth principle and most usual fuel is **furze**; called in some parts gorse, which which in every part of the shire yealds in great abundance as shrub , where the soil is naturally inclined, so that where the same one grows the land will hardly be rid of them, but by either liming or marling of the soil. This fuel serves especially for baking and brewing; but in some parts grows to that greatness that the timber serves as a principle wood for fires in in halls, chambers, and kitchens, for it is very useful to have the stalk of a foot compass and eight or nine foot high; and of late, for trial of a wager where was a furze stalk measuring to be a yard wanting three inches in compass. The fire made of the wood of the stalks of the furze is very sweet and yields greater heat and clearer fire than any other wood. These furze keep green all the winter, and the tops of them are good for cattle, which being generally allowed of, makes me not a little to marvel that the wit of man has not devised some machine to break them so so that they may be fed to cattle with greater safety, when the weapons they are armed with are bated. Besides when they grow to any greatness it is the best shelter cattle have and gives them warm lodging for the winter season. And the land that bears this kind of furze is accounted good corn land. The only means to procure this shrubbery to spring up being once decayed is to plough the land and till it for three or four years, then let it lie, and presently the furze will rise again, as the Phoenix is said to do out of the ashes of her ancestor.

Another kind of furze there is, called small of tame furze, or of some, Welsh furze which is a small short shrub growing on bad land , which never reaches to any great height, yet serves to bake and brew with, and the land that bears this is complete barren and shallow. This last kind blossoms with the heather in th latter end of the harvest against winter; whereas the former accompanies the broom and blooms in May against the summer. The former kind bears his seeds in small pods like peas, and being sown will prosper.

Fern is but a weak fuel serves for brewing, and other wise for the poorer sort of people that cannot better provide themselves.

The heather grows in the mountains in this country of a great height, and is pulled up by the roots by the poor people and serves for fire as well as meat for cattle, when the high mountains are covered with snow and nothing open but the tops of the heather, whereon the cattle in this extremity will feed and save themselves till the ground be uncovered, but I have heard that this kind of heather being cut in summer and made into ricks, is the chiefest and sweetest fuel for drying of malt, therein passing both wood and straw. I would I might see the experience hereof, which, as yet, was never tried in this country.

Chapter XI

Of the chief Rivers of this Shire, that have their course throughout the same, or have their Rising in the same and Endings in other Countries.

In this place where I purpose to entreat of chief rivers in general, I have determined to speak of none but such chief rivers and brooks as keep their course and name until they fall into the sea, and run at the least 2 miles; briefly mentioning such rills and brooks as they receive in their way, for the rest that fall into those rivers and so end before they come to the sea, although some be bigger streams than the former other that continue their name to the sea yet I have determined to forebear them in this place, and will entreat of them in the particular hundreds, where they rise and spring.

And of there principal rivers I will first entreat of both the Cleddy, whose joint fall makes the famous port or Haven of Milford, and in the British Tongue takes the name of these two rivers and is called Aberdoyglethe, that is, the mouth or fall of both Cleddys. And on describing of them I must vary a little from him that gave instructions to Mr Holingshed of the rising and course of all or most of the rivers of the England in his second book of the description of Britain, and second chapter (for it is contrary to my own knowledge) as also from Mr Saxon's maps who have as I perceived, followed, the same description of Mr Holingshed for most rivers. And first whereas both Mr Holingshed and Mr Saxon in his map, showed that the said river Cledde rose out of Vrennyvawt Hill; it is not so, for it springs in Blaen y gors, in Managlogddu, and running west, receive into a rill from the north called Kewgill rising at Bwlch Ungwr, and passing further receives from the east a rill that rises above Capell Cawey, called Bray and is in that place that the Lansker between Penbrok and Carmarthenshire; from thence the said Cledde runs as a Lansker between the said shires and Managlogddu Church where it receives the river Clydaghe from the north springing out of Coomkerwyn Hill and from thence continues Lansker between both shires, and comes to Llangolman, where it receives from the north a rill called Llony, and running between the parishes of Llandissilio and Llanykeven, still parted both shires until a rill running from Ryd y Miler fall into it, which at that place parts both the shires; and then cometh Penbrokeshire over the river again at Llandissilio, which continuing his course receives into it the river Breynan ddu whose spring is from Carn yr avar, and running west of Lloydarthe; and further down at Tregindeg it receives Breynan wen, whose spring is in Blacknocke Moore and runs between the parishes of Maenclochog and Moat by Merlan; and then the said river Clethe passing by Egermont, leaving it in Carmarthenshire, although by Mr Saxon's Map in Penbrokeshire, between Egermont, receives a rill called Cryning, which there parts Penbrokeshire and Carmarthenshire again stretching itself over the same and beneath Egermont receives into it the river Syvynvey, being well near as big as itself, which comes by Longridge from Walton. Clethy running forward under Llawhaden bridge, receive from the east the river Marlais, coming from Longford and before it comes to Caneston Bridge receives into it a rill called Gloyn, running through Narberth Forest; and from thence by Talche wood to Slebech and between Picton and Mynweare, at Rose Castle point meets with the other Cleddy, that comes from Harford, and there joining where Aberdaugledde begins.

The other Clethe, called Clethe wen, rises at Llygad Clethe, which in English is called Clethe Eye in the parish of Llanfair Nany y Gof and goes by Kelli'r moch where it parts the Lordship of Kemes and Dewisland, and there falls into a great moor called Lanstinan Moor passing by Llanstinan Church to Lanstinan Bridge, where a little beneath it receives in a rill from the north, that rises short of Trebrithen in the parish of Manarnawen, and so holding on her course westward, a little above Llwyngwaran Bridge it receives from the East the Lylleth which rises above Trecoon at

Carn Diao Moore and running together under Llwyngwaran Bridge , before it comes to Pont melin Moris. It receives the Marlais ,that rises near Castell Kynles, and so to Perskely; and then under Stone Hall is St Lawrence parish, on to Wolfe Castle where from the east it receives a nameless river that comes from Pontehardston; from whence it turns towards Trewgarne, but first receives in a rill from Brimeston which parts the hundred of Dewisland from Rowse; and so running between both Trefgarne it there receives from the east a forked rill that rises near Ambleston, from whence forward it continues the Lansker between the hundreds of Rowse and Dungleddy and so continues westward beneath Rudbaxton, it receives a forked brook from the east, the one branch whereof rises in the New Town Moor the other coming from Poiston; from thence it runs forward towards Haverfordwest, but before it comes to Elliott s Hill receives the brook that passes under Pelcam Bridge and Camros, and a little lower receives another rill that comes from Lamston and so passes to Prendergast and under Haverfordwest Bridge beneath which it receives another river at Carlton, which rises near Walton Bridge and then beneath Haroldston it receives a brook from the west which rises in the moor east of Haroldston West Beacon, and runs by St Margaret's Chapel and so to Denant, and on under the the Mawdlens and Haroldston Bridge, discharging itself the into the said Cledde; where Cledde being now salt, continues on bending somewhat southeast running between Hooke Wood and Boulston, and so with joy meeting her other sister of like name, and lovingly joins to make the fair haven of Mylford; the both thus wedded become a salt sea of a mile broad, and sixteen miles longer before they forsake their native country, for whose good they send forth many fare branches on either side, serving diverse towns, villages, and gentlemen's houses, with easy transport and carriage of necessities, and commodious fishing and at the Dale turns right south making a good port or entrance of two miles broad; and then by course of nature yields themselves to the sea, the ending of all rivers, where not forgetting the natural love of native country, twice every day returns, as it were, with a loving care to see and salute their ancient offspring. And not so content with daily travel every fortnight force themselves to press further up making a greater tide , which we for difference of the other call spring tides.

The next river that comes now to in course to be spoken of in this place, is the river that falls into the sea at Newgale and parts the hundred of Rowse which although it be but a small brook, for that I find it to make a fall into the sea, and is of that length has my purpose admits to speak off. The name thereof as of all other small brooks that are among the English inhabitants, is clean forgotten, although, although the smallest brooks and rills to this day retain their ancient names among the Welshmen. This water rises in the moor near Trethyog, a village in the St Edrin's Parish and passes from there by Castel Villi, Tankardston and Eweston; and before it comes to Roch mill it receives into it a rill from the east which parts Roch from Hayscastle parish, between Newgale and the wood falling into the sea under Newgale bridge, in the large and great bay called Bride's Bay. Although Mr Saxon in his map of Penbrokeshire omit the same, by what means or cause I cannot judge, having taken pains with those of less quantity and moment.

Then follows next at hand Salvaghe Water to be spoken of, whole spring is out of Gwern y barry and running by Llanrithan, at Lochmeilir, receives a rill coming from Llandeloy, and so passes by Kerbyt and Caervoriag, and then turning southerly her course discharging itself at Solvaghe Haven, where it makes a portlet for small shipping, and safe upon many necessities.

Then next comes the Brooke Alan, which rises near Llandigige vach in St David's Parish, runs by Tretio Hendre Eynon and under Gwryd Bridge to Tmlech, and to the close of St David's through the valley, passing between the cathedral church and the bishops palace where remains St David's trout, for bigness exceeding any in these parts, and for tameness against nature that they were not afearred at the sight of many people looking on them, and approaching almost to mens hands, to receive any thing that should be cast into the brook for food; from whence a mile below it takes the sea at Port Clais.

The next that comes of course to be spoken of is the river Gwayn whose spring is out of the Precelly hill in the north side of Wayndyvet and takes her course westerly hastening down the hill to Pencelly vor and there falling head into the valley, which she christens with her own name called Dyffrin Gwayn, a valley well wooded of each side though narrow; presently turning southwards, and first receives in the Logan running from the south east and at Llabvarchan it receives in a rill from the north west called Nant Machan, and a little lower receives in the Kead, coming from the south east and rising at Cwnkead; then turning more westerly, it runs underneath Pontfaen, where a little beneath it receives into it a rill called Wala, which rises out of Gwern y Wala' and so running by Llanrychlloydok Church and Llanerchaeth, receiving by the way diverse rills from the north, and so to Pontriewydd near which it receives from the south a rill, continuing from Croallwyn; and there turning more northerly, it receives a rill that rises near Kynhydre, slipping under Fishguard Bridge into the sea, making a fair haven and good harbour for barks and shipping of small burden, much haunted for store of herrings taken there yearly.

From Fishguard the next river is Nevern, that falls into the sea at Newport Town whose spring is out of the mountain of Vrenny Vawr, and is about nine or ten miles in length; her first course is westerly and out of the south it receives a rill called Nant y Saeson, and shortly from by south it receives another tribute from the rill called Crymmaych rising at Coom Crymych and there turning north west until it receives from the north east the brook called yr Arnelh, whose spring is above St Meigans, whence it runs right west and near Nantigawyn Chapel receiving the clear rill called Nantgwyn; and then hastens towards Jordan's Mill from the south east received the brook called Nevarn Parva alias Banon; and so continuing her course from the south receives the river Brydellach, and passes under Pont Gynon Bridge, turns a little northly and hastening through a rocky valley towards Pont y Coom under Pont rywvelen, receives out of the south the river Eastern Clydaghe whose spring is near Bwlch y Pernant du from whence; turning again north west, through rocks and stones and some bending's; runs to Wenallt and under Henllys at Pont y Baldarn receives into it the sweet river Deyard, coming from Penkelly Forest and so passing to Melyndre Marchog, receives the rill Gloyn running westwards by Gwern y Gwythel and to Nevern Church where it receives Kaman from the north; then crooking itself about Llwyngwaryr receiving from the north two rills the one called Nant ryd berw rising near Tredrissey, the other called Keney, confining the Bury; then turning from Llwyngwaryr towards Newport Bridge, receives from the south another Clydagh, which rises above Kilgwn Church; thus united they run both together direct west, and under the town of Newport take sea, making there a fair large port and haven to view but in proof very perilous, being altogether barred by reason of a great sand bank of raised by the sea crossing all the entrance of the haven, being a mile broad which makes the port unprofitable.

From Newport, travelling the north coast of the country omit the brook Kybwr, for without losing its name yet do I here pass over the same for the smallness thereof, as fitter to be spoken of in the parish where it springs.

The next port therefore I come unto is the fall of the fair river Teivy, which parts Penbrokeshire from Cardigan. This river although it be the uttermost bound or limit of the shire yet I think fit to speak somewhat thereof in this place.

This is a fair good deep river which has its rise above the abbey of Strata Florida, in Cardiganshire out of the fresh pool or lock, called Llyn Teivy; from whence it hastens to the abbey aforesaid, and passing by Tregaron Llandewi Brefi to Kelland, where it receives the brook called Natharne, and from thence down, parting Cardigan and Carmarthenshire running by Llanbedr Pont Steven to Newcastle Emlyn and Kenarth where a little below it receives the river Keach, which there parts Carmarthenshire and Penbrokeshire asunder; at Aberkeash the same three shires meeting where there is a small land or island not known to which shire it belongs. From Aber Keach forward the said River Tyvy is the Lansker between Penbroke and Cardiganshires, a meadow near Manedievi Church excepted; and so passes down under Lechryd Bridge, a little beneath, receiving a brook from the

south called Morgeney, and there hence approaching to Kilgarran between great, deep and narrow hills, over which is framed the Weare of Kilgarron, strongly built of stone and timber work, where abundance of most excellent and sweet salmon are taken; a little farther down it receives from the south west a rill called Pliscoge; and there hence it proceeds downwards by the forest of Kilgarran , called properly Kevin Drim; at the lower part whereof it receives the brook Breyan, coming from Dyffrin Breyan, which there parts the hundreds of Kemes and Kilgarran; and so running by Cardigan Castle and under the bridge saluting St Dogmells as it passes to the sea, where also it receives a rill, and a little below, before it comes to the bar, another at Myniawmoor and so to the sea, where a ridge of sands makes a discommodious and dangerous bar, hindering much of the trade of shipping to these parts of the country.

Chapter XII

Of chief Hills and Mountains of this Shire

The chief and principal mountain of this shire is Prescelly, which is a long ridge or range mountains running east and west beginning above Pencellyvor, where the first mount of high land thereof is called Moel Eryr, and so passing eastward to Cwmkerwyn, being the highest part of it running east to Moekrigarn and to Llanvirmach. This mountain is about six to seven miles long and two miles broad; it has in it many hills rising in the high mountains which are to be discerned twenty, thirty, nay forty miles off and more and from this hill may be seen all Penbrokeshire and some parts of nine other shires Cardigan, Glamorgan, Brecknock, Montgomery, Merionith and Carnarvonshire; Devonshire and Somersetshire; the island of Lundy and the realm of Ireland. The commodities of this mountain are great for it yields plenty of good grass and is full of sweet springs of water; it yields also also store of fuel, for most of the mountain furnishes good peat and turf, as well the lower part and plain thereof, as the top of the mountain. Also, out of this mountain have many fine rivers their origin and beginnings namely, Navarne, Taf, Clydagh Clethe, Syvynvey, Gwayn, Clydagh, again and the third Clydagh, which water most parts of the country. This mountain is so high and fare mounted in the air that when the country about is fair and clear, the top thereof will be hidden in a cloud, which of the inhabitants is taken a sure sign of rain to follow shortly; whereof grew this proverb, *When Prescelly wears a hat all Penbrokeshire shall wet of that*

The greater part of this mountain is common to the free tenants and inhabitants of Kemes, within which lordship it stands, yet in diverse parts thereof claim to be the land of diverse particular persons, and this name of Prescelly is a genus, as Cotswald is in Gloucestershire, diverse particular places therein having special and proper names. Cwmkerwyn is the highest point or peak of this mountain and is the first and chiefest land mark that mariners do make at sea coming from the south or south-west whereby they make for Milford. And it appears to them at first sight as a round black hill; saying twelve or sixteen hours after they first make this land, before they come to sight of any other land, by reason that the sea shores is so low and therefore the name Prescelly is as well known at sea as on land. I find in an ancient and fair deed that in time long since one Nicholas the son of Martin, Lord of Kemes granted to the heirs of Gwrward the son of Cuhylin, and to the heirs of Lewhelin, another son of the said Cuhylin, the lord of Prescelly aforesaid, and named the Landskarres thereof to hold to them and their heirs for ever. This deed was before the use of a date, yet this notwithstanding the free tenants and inhabitants do to this day enjoy it as common appurtenance to their freehold, and do suppose that this deed should be a charter or grant to them of this common. Along the said hill top of Prescelly from the beginning to the end, there is seen the tract of an ancient way now clear out of use; yet such had been the trade of old that way was apparently discerned and this way is usually called yet the Flemings way; and in the said ancient charter of Sir Nicholas Martin it is so named *Sicut via Flandrensica ducit per summitatem montis a loco vacato & c* which does greatly confirm the opinion touching the coming of the Flemings here to Penbrokeshire, and well they might this usual way for passage for that this passage along the top of the highest hill they the better descry the privy ambushes of the country people which might in the straights and woods annoy them.

The next mountain of note and bigness is the high sharp rock over Newport called Carn Englie supposed to take the name of a giant of that name. This is a very high steep and stony mountain having the top thereof of sharp and all rocks shewing from the east and north like the upper part of the greek letter *pi*. The pasture of this mountain was given in common by the forenamed Nicholas, the son of Martyn then lord of Kemes to his burgesses of his town of Newport, which they enjoy to

this day, with diverse other freedoms and liberties to them granted, by diverse charters, yet extant and said sealed with his seal of the arms of the armes of the said Lordship of Kemes, all the deeds of that antiquity being sans date. This mountain is large, five or six miles in circuit and surmounts all others for good sheep pasture, both for fattening and for soundness and especially commodious in this, that no snow stays on it by reason of the nearness of the sea. This mountain is well watered with fine and clear springs, and is of the same vein as the former hills of Precelly saving that it is cut from it by a deep and narrow valley.

The last and third mountain of name in this shire is that which is placed at the east end of the Precelly hills called Vrenny vawr but more aptly the Vryn Vawr which in English is the great hill. This hill is round and black in sight by reason it is overgrown with heath, yet has no rock or stone on it, but for the most part is arable land, and heath; it is seen from far, especially from the east parts of the country and serves as a mark to guide the way to strangers that have occasion to visit these parts. This hill in the land of particular men and some part of it has borne corn.

This Vrenny vawr and the last Carn Englie stand as Captain and Lieutenant the one leading the vanguard and the other following the rearguard. Having Precelly hills ranged between them both among whom Cwn Kerwyn before mentioned being near midway between them both may well, for his high stature, overlooking the rest, claim the place of ensign bearer.

These, in effect are the chief hills to be spoken of in general, although there be diverse others worthy of note as Mynith Dwygrig above Pontehardston, Castebigh hill, Mynith Tyrch in Manachiogddy and Crigie Du, all which I reckon as scouts attending upon Precelly, and seem as members thereof. There are also in some hundreds diverse parts, seeming as mountains in respect of the plains adjoining; such is the vein beginning south of Trewent, and passing to St Petrox, St Twynells and between Castlemartin and the moor, and so to the sea; the like is that which passes by Cosheston, above Lamphey and so to Holloway and Penally, being a high hill running between two fair valleys. The like is another passing from the windmills of Tenby to Jeffreston and so to Milford; but these are reckoned hills more in respect of low vales on either side of them, than for any property of mountains in themselves, for although the same be banks of high land yet are they enclosed, tilled and well inhabited.

There is also a waste and barren vein beginning near Coed Kynlas and running east of Templeton, Ludchurch, Cronwere, and Amroth and so to the sea; which, although it to be barren and a waste above ground, yet has it treasures in its bowels, such as plenty of limestone which enriches the country on both sides, but this is flat and not rising. There is also a mountain passing from Tregarn to Plumstone Rock and so to Roche Castle whose whole course is somewhat easterly by these last veins of hills and waste which have their course east and west or near and seldom north and south, as I have said before of the veins of limestone and coal. It is a thing of no small moment to consider of the nature of those matters which have their course in the bowels of the earth.

The rest of the shire, the aforementioned places excepted is plain and champion, yet yet has it diverse perspicuous places to be seen from most open places of the shire, which I thought good to note in departing from the hills and mountains, diverse of which places for their open air, wholesome and pleasant features and delightful prospects, afford long and pleasant living to the gentlemen and other dwellers there; the chiefest of them are these that follow.

Gentlemen's Houses, Villages and towns, on high places

Wiston

Llawhaden

Roche Castle

St Thomas in Haverfordwest

Trewgarn Owen

St Petrox

St Twynells

Warren

Tenby Town and Castle,

Stainton

Johnston Church

Bulston Hill

Mathry

Jeffreston

Crossely.

Places not inhabited, as High Rocks, Tumps; and Steeples

Cregie Kemes, four little tumps of earth, and yet to be seen forty miles of from Penplymon

Castle Martin

near Ludchurch

Tenby Windmills

St David's (*Daniels* ?)Chapel near Pembroke

Hungeston Windmill

Marlais Beacon

Rams castle an old fort or trench

St Anne's Chapel,

Near the entrance of Milford,

Benton Beacon,

St Leonard's Rath, and old fort on high ground

Rocks

Garn Vawr in Dinas,

Carn Penbryy

Carn Llydy

Ramsey Island which last three are near St David's

Pencaer

Burton Beacon

Now having occasion to speak of the most high and open places I think fit here to speak a little of places of a contrariety situation, as those which are built in deep low and close places, environed with hills and not to be seen most ways until you come into the very towns or places themselves, such was the difference of mens minds in choosing seats from preferred health and open air though these the best and most pleasant places; other liking better close warm and low places perchance their constitution of body not being able to endure the parching airs from their dwellings there; --

after which are these ---

St Dogmells Abbey

Pyll Prior

St David's Church, Close and Canon's Houses called the Valley

Stackpole Elider

Dale Town

Llannerch y Blythe House

Navarne Town

Melyndre Marchog

Chapter XIII

Of Salt Islands separated by the sea from Penbrokeshire, and yet Part thereof; and diverse Rocks and stones near the sea shore, yielding fowl or other commodities; and of two Peninsulas

Of these islands adjoining near the main of Penbrokeshire, I find some greater, some smaller and some very rocky having no grass. Of these there are four of chiefest account, for they exceed the rest in greatness, whose names are

Caldy

Stockholme

Scalmey(*Skomer*)

and Ramsey

of these, and of the smaller islets or small island's adjoining to each of them I will speak first, and then to the rest,

Caldey

is an island as I should judge a mile long and half as broad, it stands two miles from the main, seated opposite to the town of Tenby, it is called by Giraldus by the old British name Ynys Pyrr (That is the island of Pyrus). There was in times past a priory called as says Leland *Lille* a parish church and a chapel dedicated to *St* ?

It belonged to the Abbey of St Dogwells, and was purchased by Mr Roger Bradshaw father to the late Mr John Bradshaw grandfather to Mr John Bradshaw that now is, who about four years past sold the same to Mr Walter Philpin of Tenby whose inheritance now it is. The island is very fertile and yields plenty of corn all their ploughing goes with horses for oxen the inhabitants dare not keep, fearing the purveyors of the pirates, as they themselves told me would often make them provision there by their own commission, and most commonly to the good contentment of the inhabitants when considerable thieves arrive there. The island is of eight or ten households and some part of the demesnes annexed total ruins of the priory, the lord keeps in his hands. It is now grown a question in what hundred of Penbrokeshire the island should be, whether Kemes, as parcel of St Dogwells to which it appertained, or part of the next hundred of the Main and until this doubt be decided, the inhabitants are content to rest exemption from any payments or taxation to any hundred

There is adjoining to the north side of this island a good and safe road for shipping from twelve to six fathoms deep in good ouse, secure from all winds, those of the east points excepted. It may receive between between it and the rode of Tenby 200 ships as has been certified upon late survey, all in safe riding and good anchor hold.

There is also adjoining to this great Caldey a small island placed between it and the land called Little Caldey. It bears good grass and connyes , and store of gulls, and is the Queen Majesty land parcel of the manor of Manorbier and Penally.

The next great island to be spoken of is Skokholm near the mouth of the Milford Haven and next to it Skomer being both great and large islands though not inhabited, but serving only for feeding of sheep, kyne, oxen, horses, mares, and great store of coney as the first by reason, I think, that it is suffered to lie waste and not manured.

These are now her Majesties being sometimes the inheritance of Sir John Perrott, Knight; and of ancient times parcel of the Lordship of Haverfordwest as it appears by records, at which time the pasture of the said islands was valued to fifty five shillings, and the coney's to fourteen pounds five shillings by which it would should seem that they were greatly replenished with conies in those days

I find adjoining to these two islands, the one adjoining to Skomer, called in Mr Saxon's maps Midholme and the other between Skokholm and the Main close to it called in Mr Saxon's maps Gatholm, both which are small patches yet bear grass, and serve for sheep pasture; both these small islands are accepted as pendants to the two larger.

Far off in the sea stands the island of Gresholm called of Mr Saxon, but of the neighbours Walleyes, eight miles from the Maine and for the remoteness there of and small profit it yields seldom frequented.

The next last and greatest of these islands is called Ramsey by Ptolemeus Lymes, and is placed at St David's Head land in form triangle, much like the Isle of Cyprus. This island also is waste and not inhabited; but has in it two decayed chapels and store of fresh water, as all the former have; one of the said chapels dedicated to St David's, the other to Devanok, in English Devanus, who, with Faganus, was sent by Bishop Eleutherius to the Britains, to preach the word of life in the year 186, after the ascension of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Lucius then being king of Britain. This island belongs to the bishop of St David's; it feeds sheep horses, beefs, and conies. The sheep of this as of the other islands, yield not so much profit as those of the main, their wool being courser, and much impregnated with the salt water; the milk and muck of the sheep are also lost. Being brought to land, they are so amazed at the sight of people, that they run, become wild, and will not be taken more than will deer and their wool yields not such price as that of the main land does neither is so commodious in cloth.

On the east side of this island and towards the land are two islands or rocks, the one called Ynis y Pyre; the other the Chanters rock, but yield small profit saving some gulls.

A sea borders this island Ramsey ranges in order the bishop and his clerks, being seven in number, always seen at low water who are not without some small qualities. Who show not themselves but at spring tides and calm seas.

The chief of these, is called of the inhabitants, the Bishop's rock and another Carreg yr Carreg yr Rossan; the third Divych; the fourth Emskyr; but of the rest as yet, I have not learn the names if they have any. These rocks are accounted great danger to these that seek Milford coming from the south west seas, and are to this headland of St David's, as the commonly called Silly to the Land's End of England. And if the better skill guide not the passengers, the proverb man be fulfilled ***Incid in scillam &c***. The bishop and his clerks, preached deadly doctrines to their winter audience, and are commendable in nothing but their *good residence* which it is much to be wished that every other Bishop and his clerks would imitate. These all yield store of gulls in the times of the year.

Having now briefly come over these four great islands with their sequence, I will now return and speak of the lesser sorts of islands being for the most part rocks yielding small profits save wild fowl that breeds there on, wherein I note, that although these small islands or rocks be separated from the Main by some arm of the sea yet do the property or these remain to the owners of the next adjoining land.

In speaking of these I will return back to Milford Haven, where treating the great, I overpassed two small in the mouth of Milford, the out most called Sheepe Island being near the east side of Milford, at the entrance without the blockhouse, which is but a small tump so called because as I guess, sheep have once access there unto, for at low tide it is dry and therefore scarce deserve the name of an island, and has nothing in it worth the noting.

Further within the mouth of the Haven, on the same side is the island called Rutt island but of the inhabitants called Thorne Island; this is a pretty island , but very little full of deep grass, a musket shot from the Main, this and the proceeding belong to Walter Rees esq.

Within Milford Haven lies the Stack, a rock without grass, and not worth many to be spoken for the purpose I have now in hand; but therefore by special directions from her Majesty and the lords of the council, touching a description to be made of Milford Haven. I have more exactly handled the two last as places fit for fortifications, the particulars are not therefore fit here to be disclosed.

For rock and stones adjoining to the main, yearly yielding gulls and such like sea fawl, there is one adjoining to the island of Barry and parcel thereof, one at Abermawr, one at Dinas, Carreg y trynuir, one near Voelgoch, and two at Moelgrove all belonging to the next part of the main, all which, more or less according to their quantities yield store of sea fowls to their owners.

The two peninsular, or half islands , which I purpose to speak of, are called islands for that in effect they are islands, having that each of them has a small valley or bog between it and the land which the sea possesses not but are such as with industry might be cut being bog and with small charge the sea drawn about them.

The one is called Dinas , the other, the island of Barry in the parish of Llanrian both of late years being the inheritance of Thomas Bowen of Pentre Evan Esq. after whose decease these islands were shared between his two daughters, each taking one.

This island of Dinas is very good corn land especially for wheat, which is said to bear without muck or other amendment, and for all other kind of grain very fruitful as also well nourishing sheep. It has been in ancient time parted in two with a stone hedge for that, the one side being tilled, the cattle might graze the other without damage. It is a mile one way and near as much the other. I find the name thereof in ancient writings to be Ynys bach llyssn gawr, and that it was in old time the inheritance of diverse persons; and by purchase brought in one hand , and has for all the time of man's memories been occupied with the house of Pentre Jevan as a grange for the maintenance of hospitalities.

The other island called the island of Barry, is the domain and parcel of the manor of Llanrian in Dewisland which manor and island fell to the part of the youngest daughter of the said Thomas Bowen, being sometimes the patrimony of the Wogans of Wiston and sold by the late John Wogan to the said Thomas Bowen. This island is more fertile than the other especially for barley and it is well stored with hay, a commodity wanted to the other and for bigness I judge it a little inferior to the former.

Chapter XIV

Of the several Sorts of Fish taken in this shire, as well in the Fresh Rivers as the Sea Coasts, and of the great plenty thereof.

Having spoken of the salt islands of this country environed by the sea, it follows aptly in this place to speak of the fish which is yearly taken in the main sea, the creeks and arms thereof and the fresh rivers that pass through the country.

For pond fish there are none, wherein I cannot but condemn our whole country of carelessness and sloth for that want, for of all the countries that I have ever travelled, this soil yields most convenient places for fish ponds and to be built with less cost and pain; for in all, or most parts of the shire, there are fine and sweet springs running in small little valleys, as it were worn by their course not deep broad and shallow, not headlong or steep but almost one plain ground, the springs not too great, whereby the violence might break the damming head but sufficient to maintain a pond where there needs nothing but the erection of a head or weir for stopping of the water, and the pond would be ready so that in many a hundred places of this country less than £5's charge would make a large fish pond, which besides the commodity of the fish, would provide commodious for watering of, and standing cattle in parched seasons, and also a nursery for swans, that of any other, the county has least store of; whereas I see in other country's a hundred pounds and more consumed in raising a fish pond, and yet think the charge well bestowed; I mean not only the want of ponds of fresh fish but also those of salt water, upon the sea coast which the ingenious minds of diverse gentlemen in other country's have lately and rarely invented, whereby intruding upon maritime jurisdiction, fish in salt water, and bring the same subject to their command and commodity and in such sort as that they have readily at their call, bass, mullet, snookes and plaice, sole, whiting, sea smelts, crabs, shrimps and other diverse sorts of salt water fish, as it were in a park. To these salt ponds there are infinite apt and fit places especially on all of most of the creeks spread out on every side of Milford Haven.

But omitting that which we might have and have not, let me speak of that which we have and want not, the fishing of Penbrokeshire, which, as I have said before in Chapter VII is one of the cheapest worldly commodities where with all God has blessed this country, which fish are of diverse sorts, following at diverse times of the year, and that at diverse places. The names of some sorts most commonly taken on this coast are these, that I will speak of, which I shall divide into four sorts that is

River Fish; Sea Fish; Shell fish; and the three strange nature fishes.

River Fish

And first in this place I will speak of the river fish, where of the **salmon** shall have the first place, partly for the plenty and store thereof, taking in many parts and places of the county but chiefly for the excellence and daintiness thereof wherein it exceeds those of other counties; the principle place for taking thereof is in the river Tivy and there chiefly at Kilgarran, where the greatest Wear of all Wales is to be seen, chargeable built of strong timber frames and artificially wrought therein with stones crossing the whole river from side to side, having fixed slaughter places wherein the fish entering remain enclosed and are therein killed with an iron crook proper for that use where there have been often a hundred or a hundred and forty, more or less in some days; the fish being most excellent, and for fatness and sweetness exceeding those of other rivers. There is also great store of this fish, as well also of sewing, mullet and botchers, being all near kin to the salmon, taken in the said river near St Dogwells, in a seine net drawn after every tide, as also in the river of Nevern at Newport where they take them in a draught net sometimes by the scores at a haul; as also in famous Wear of which there be two or three upon the river. There is also store of salmon taken at Fishguard, in the river Gwayn and in both the Clethy, the one coming up to Haverfordwest, the other to

Slebech and Canaston; and in each of these places store of sewing, salmon, trout, mullets and botchers, taken in the spring which is their season. One especial thing is to be noted of the salmon of Tivy, that at all times of the year there are found some in season, yea even in winter; when in most places they are found kipper, leane and unwholesome, there they are found new, fresh, fat and ruddy between All Saints and Christmas.

This fish comes from the sea up the rivers and in sandy places both the male and the female are found in the night labouring to make make beds with their snouts by heaping sand and gravel for their spawning places and in this business they are watched and with lights of fire drawn to wonder thereat, while the fishers from the land with with Neptunes weapon, the famous spear erase them of their life, being then for the most part unwholesome and lean; yet it is said this fish and the gosling concurred in growth, meaning that in one year they come to their full bigness. Giraldus says that this fish says he, taking taking his tail in the mouth becomes in form like a ring, with all his strength at the at the loose mounts so high that he will cast himself up a great bank of rock and does instance of a great rock at Kilgarran; wherein he was deceived, for the same is indeed at Kinnarth three miles above Kilgarran where the river falls over a perpendicular and steep rock of ten or twelve foot high, at which place the salmon are imagined to ascend, for that they are found many miles in that river above the said place, which is called there from the Salmon Leep. This fish best in season, at his first coming from the sea, where he goes to wash himself and returns into the fresh river most bright and shining, fat and delicate, and the longer he travels up the river, beating himself against the Banks, rocks and shelves, the leaner he gets. They are chiefly in season in the spring, and all the summer. This fish the sooner he be boiled after his taking, the more sweet and delicate he proves in eating, whereas long keeping or carriage before boiling, decays his sweetness and therefore is said to be best when he is cast alive into the pan(the water being hot and boiling) where presently it turn up the corners and sides, waxing red in colour interlarding the red with white cruddy fat , that yields meat very sweet in tail

A merry writer, likens the parts of this fish to a fair woman, says that about the jaws, the eyes and the belly , are the sweetest parts of the salmon.

The **sewin, bitcher, mullett salmon peale or salmon trout** are synonymous and all one but different in name only are same taste and taking one with the salmon but lesser and shorter in eating than the salmon. Some think they are the salmon indeed but want in growth; but the best fishermen are of opinion, that they are of several kinds and will never become salmon. These if they be of several kinds yet are never found to come up the river to spawn or to make spawning pits as the salmon do. Plynie shows in his natural history, that the old salmon is known *per duritiem fquamarum*, so for the smaller, the brighter and thinner the scales of the Salmon are, the younger you may judge the fish to be.

The **trout** of this country are nothing so good as those I have eaten in other countries being white in colour, smaller and drier in eating, wanting fatness and growth, yet are there great store taken in every small brook and rill, as also in the greatest rivers. They come in and are best in season in March and April and continue good all the summer. They are caught with the angle, wherein the skillfull fisher takes great pleasure finding it a pleasant healthy execise; as also in wheels at certain stopping places, and at tails of mills, where they are slaughtered in great plenty. The trout also is taken with diverse kind of nets as with trammel and fork nets, but most of all the drag net which sweeps away great and small., for want of which the poorer sorts of people sew diverse winnowing sheets and raw woollen clothes together, and with force of men draw sundry pools in the river where the fish most frequent, where all fishes are taken without respect and sometimes if a salmon hit in they never used to cast him to the river again. The rivers of this shire differ, some having more, and some less store of this kind of fish and some excelling others in goodness and growth.

Eels and **Lampreys** are found in every river, and the more muddy the river the better the eels. Also in old marl pits have been found eels very large some three or four foot in length, and the bigness answerable to the same; but the chief store is found and taken yearly in the river Cleddy near Lanstinan, where the great moor of bog being of three miles long serves for the nursery of the slippery fish, the taking of which is in August their nature being then to move and break asunder out of their beds in the muddy moor and being stirred, the floods after great showers carry them to the river running through the bog and at certain stopped passages called wears they are in the night taken in wattle wheels and nets pitched of the purpose, where in the morning they are taken up by the bucket and salted. They are also taken in the rivers by clotting, which is a clew of yarn all covered with angle touch worms, and cast into the river or pool where at biting, they are fastened by their crooked teeth and so landed. Plynie writes that the eel lives for eight years and will live dry seven days, so the north wind blow, but not so long with the south wind.

The **lampreys** are in the fresh rivers with the eels, where be some of reasonable bigness which I have often taken but seldom dressed because there is a concealed a way or gut in some parts of the fish which must be drawn first, which gut if it breaks poisons the fish; a doubt that preserved the life of the fish in most places where the breed.

The **river mussels** are not for meat, being great and long of 7 or 8 inches and so rank of taste as on that account to be rejected being of the country people termed for their bigness Horse mussels. They are chiefly taken for the pearls that are found in them, in most of which are met from one to four pearls, orient, but most commonly cornered and dark, which makes them of less account. The chief rivers for this kind of fish are Taf and Navarne where they be in no great plenty.

Of the **sea fish** there is great store taken in every part round the coast, and as the several places where they are taken are many, so are the diverse kinds of fish.

Among the which I will first begin with the **herring**, which, for the greatest use it supplies, and for the abundance thereof taken, above all the other sorts, is called the king of fish. This fish is taken more commonly about this realm than in any other country of the world for, as says the history of Lewis Guichardine, herrings are only bred in the *septentrio nale* or northern seas, but not in the southern seas, or any rivers, nor yet in the Spanish seas; and says that they come out of the extremest part of the north seas and with the fast cold in great numbers to avoid the rigour of the pole and that their course is to compass once the Isle of Brittain, and so to the ocean. It is said that they swim in great schools together, approaching near the shore, delighting to sea fishers or any human creatures, and are guided by kings, as the bees are who going foremost are followed by the multitude; and that the brightness of their eyes shine in the water like lightening by which mark they are discerned from the land; and it is written that their kings are marked on their heads like a crown and are ruddie in colour. This fish contrary to the nature of all others is said to feed and only live only by water, and as soon as he is brought into the air presently dies.

Rondeletius writing of the herring, Lib 7 de pisebus cap 16 says

gregalis eft pifcers Est tam magni funt Herringarum greges ut capi non poffint, fed poft autumi Equinoctiam, in acies fe dividunt; locag; mutant, Estgregatim per oceanum vagantur, quo fit ut multi fimul capiantur.

This king of fish is taken on the shores of the country in great abundance, especially for the eight; years past, more than in former years; the places of their taking in this shire most usually were Fishguard, Newport, and Dinas where for many years, and even from the beginning, there has some quantity been yearly taken; but of later years they have resorted to Broadhaven, Galroppe Rode in Brides Bay, Martin Haven, Hopgaine and St Brides, and have been plentifully taken to the great commodity of the country; nay of late they have been taken in Milford Haven and in Roads of Tenby and Caldy, and near to St David's and generally from the fall of the Tivy to Erewear; so that it seems they have laid siege by sea about the county:- so greatly has God bestowed his blessing upon this poor country. The Lord make us thankful therefore.

This fishing is chiefly from August till near Christmas, but the middle or first fishing is counted best, as that which is fullest and fattest.'The order of taking them is with drovers and shooting of nets in known places chosen especially for the fairness of the ground, which nets are then shot in the evening, the later the better and drawn up with such store as it pleases God to send, from ten to forty meses in a boat, each mese containing thirty one score or 520 herrings.

The **pilchers** which now of late years are not so rife as before and the **mackerel** are taken with them but both these two sorts nothing in respect to the herring.

Other kinds of sea fish this country yields in great at seasons which for that they are so many several sorts, it would require a particular volume to write of every sort separately, and the order of taking them, wherefore I will only name so many sorts of fish as my memory will suffer me that this shire yields, which are as follows:-

turbut, halibut, byrte, sele, plaice flooke, flounder, ling, cod, hake, mullet of both kinds, gurnet, grey and red whiting, haddock, sea smelt, the sprat of sand eel, the eel whose fins grow forward, contrary to the nature of fish, rough and smooth hounds, thornback, and ray, with many others which I cannot remember, which make the market and gentlemen's houses to be plentifully served besides the great relief for the poor near the sea coasts. The chief places of fishing in this shire, though every place yeald some are Milford Haven, Broad Haven, St Brides Bay, the Rade of Tenby and Caldý, where for the most part there is not fail.

Now for **shell fish** – this sea is also not niggerly both for plenty and several kinds among which , before all I will give place to the **oyster** which Milford Haven yields most delicate, of several sorts and in great abundance being a commodity much wanted in many shires, for by water they are transported to Bristol and the to the Forest of Dean; from whence by land they are sent to Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, and some parts of Wiltshire, and often times up the river as far as Worcester and Salop; They are also carried by land to the counties of Cardigan, Carmarthen, Brecknock, Radnor, Monmouth, Hereford, Montgomery, and other parts of Shropshire, The chieftest places of taking these oysters is at Lawrenny, the Pill, and the Crowe; the first of which is accounted the fattest, whitest and sweetest ; the Pill oyster for that he is left in less washed with fresh water tastes more salt, and therefore more pleasing to some; and the Crowe oyster strives with both for delicacy.

The oysters are taken by dredge within Milford Haven, which is done with a kind of of apron made with bars having a piece of horse or bullock's skin sowed to it like a bag, in such sort as that it being fastened to a rope end is cast into the bottom of Milford at 8 or ten fathoms deep and is dragged at a boats end by two rowers up and down the channel, and so the bag of leather being apt to scrape up all manner of things lying in the bottom gathers up the oysters that breed there over certain known places, which bag being filled they draw up and empty the oysters in their boat, applying their labours so all the day and when they have done, they row to the shore at full sea and there cast out all the oysters in a great heap, which they call beds, where every tide overflows them, and so are kept for loading of boats to Bristol and other places.

Were it not that the Wallfleet and Gravesend oysters are better friended in court than this poor country oyster of Milford is, no question but he would and well might challenge to have the chief praise before then both; and I presume if the poet Horace had tasted of the Milford Oyster he would not have preferred the oyster of Circaeii; which, in the town of Campanie before this, where he commends diverse fish for the country's breeds.

A pleasant minded man imaging the worst that might be spoken of the oyster said it it is unclean meat, an unprofitable meat, unclean for fouling of hands in opening of them, so that always you must have water to clean the hands after them; unprofitable, for let a man eat so good a meal at

oysters, presently he sits to dinner and eats as earnestly as if he had not eaten any thing before; ungodly, because it is never used to say grace before oysters as before other meat.

Besides this Milford oyster there is a greater kind of oyster gathered at Caldey and Stackpole, which being eaten raw seem too strong a meat for weak stomach and must be parted in two, three or four pieces before he may be eaten, by reason of his exceeding bigness, and are not counted so pleasing as the former and therefore are used in pies, stews, broths, fried and boiled wherein he is found most delicate. The oyster in ancient times was accounted seasonable in those months only that had a 'R' in them; but experience now teaches that in May June July and August there are some found to be very sweet and wholesome, though some be unwholesome which are easily discerned, for being opened, they are filled with a cruddie matter like cream, about the fish, which Plynie speaks of, Lib 9 cap51. And as Petrus Gillius says, the oyster is estrangely engendered of this of this milk by casting it on any stack of rock that is overflowed; but we find by experience that the oysters breed their young as the beggars do by bearing them on their backs; yet those that are found without this milk are as good and sweet in those 'R' less months as at any other time of the year.

Lobsters and crabs are also found in the sea cliffs and other places, are very sweet delicate meat, and are plentifully taken. The lobster, says *Darion* set whole on the table has three special qualities, for says he he yields exercise sustenance and contemplation; exercise in cracking his legs and claws, sustenance, by eating the meat thereof, and contemplation, by beholding the curious works of his complete armour, be beholding of his *tases*, vauntbraces, puoldreons, cuithes, gauntlets, curiously contrived and by forged by the most admirable workmanship of the world. The crab does sensible steal the course of the moon, filling and emptying itself with the increase and decrease thereof, and therefore is said to be best at the full of the moon.

The **shrimp** is also an inhabitant, and taken upon every spring from the beginning of May till harvest, which are most delicate and sweet meat. They are chiefly taken about Tenby in pits in the sand after the ebb. Mussels, Limpets, crevices, sheath or Hullfish, cockles flemings, hens and diverse other shell fish are taken abundantly is sundry and most parts of the shire.

Lastly I will end my fish message with the three strange nature fish that is the seal, or sea calf, the porpoise, and the thornpole; I call them strange of nature, for where as all other fish that breed do, but these do engender after the nature of beasts, and the female does grow great and bring forth young.

The **seal** is covered with hair like a calf, and has four short legs and broad pawed like a the mole, this fish comes to land to rest and sleep and lies together in herds as swine one upon another; and at birth time as Plynie says, comes at land and is delivered gives suck to the young till he is able to swim which he says will be in twelve days and never brings above two at a time. The flesh of the fish is white, and is more delicate meat than his ancestor being strong and fulsome to the taste yet it is accounted a dainty and rare dish of many men. This fish is very fatty as bacon and the skin serves to many uses being dressed, especially in times past, for covering of tents because it receives no hurt by lightening, as says Plynie, and also Rondeletius after him. The hair of the seal flares at the south wind and goes smooth with the north wind; but certain it is, that it does so at the flood and ebb flaring at the one and smoothing with the other.

The **porpoise** is in form like a mackerel, long and round, but much more huge, some being twelve of sixteen feet long and his skin is smooth without hair or scale, like to the eel or lampreys. This fish is ramish, fat and strong for a weak stomach to digest. There is of this fish, and of the thornpole, made store of oil though very strong and evil smell.

The **thornpole** is as the form, bigness and taste, and in all other things to the porpose, different only in having a great round hole in the pole of the head, through the which he uses to spout out water in great streams, received in through the mouth.

These three kinds of fish being ravenous by nature follow the shoals of herrings feeding on them, devouring them; and so in herring fishing, are taken often times wrapped in the herring nets.

Chapter XV

Of the abundance of Fowl that the Country yields; and of the several sorts thereof.

Having spoken somewhat of the fish taken in the country, one chief commodity of the same, it stands in course next to speak of the fowl which yearly breed in and haunt the land and sea coast, which are not so diverse in kind as abundant in multitude and plenty, which is almost incredibly to reported together with the cheapness of them, at former times and seasons, whereof some are found always in season, as the grouse, the heath-cock, and wood quail; the crane, the heronshaw, the gull, kept and feed; the curlew &c. Some others are but at seasons, as the woodcock, the wild goose, wild duck, bittern, wild swan,&c

But of all fowl we of Penbrokeshire claim interest in two sorts chiefly that is the **gull** and the **woodcock** for the great plenty we assure ourselves of yearly. The first being our own natural and native country fowl, bred among us; and for his good stomachs, much of disposition with the baser sort of labouring people of some parts of the country, that are truly slandered with eating five meals a day, and in such abundance that in their season, the towns and country about are very plentiful served therewith.

The chief nursery of this fowl is in the small islands in the sea, and near the main land, where of I have have made mention before, in the 13th chapter, where I entreat of salt lands where in May and June, they are found to breed in such plenty, that you can hardly walk on the land of some small islands without treading on the eggs in the nests upon the ground. These fowl breed also in the sea cliffs, in great store and are ripe about Midsummer, at which time they are taken being ready to forsake their nests and such as are flush are followed with boats, and taken swimming, not being able to fly, are brought to land and are very dainty meat presently as soon as they are caught and will be kept and fed as a ready dish all the year round. Beside the provision which gentlemen and others of the shire do make to serve their houses, there is a great store found in England and sought and sent for out of the inland shires a hundred miles and more.

The **woodcock**, although he be not our countryman born yet we must need think him to be of some affinity to many of our country people, by reason of the love and kindness he shows in resorting thither, first of all before other parts of Wales or England, and in more abundance than elsewhere, and longer with us than in any other part; and if I may in sport suppose a cause thereof let it be for that the people in general of this country are found to be of more plain meaning, simple, harmless and further from Machiavelli devises or bearing high and prying spirits. This fowl being noted likewise for his simplicity(of some call foolery) it may be guessed he makes choice rather to the converse among these people, being nearest to his innocence, plain and simple humour, according to the old adage *Si miles similen sib iquerit*, but whatforever the cause be, we are most beholding to him of all other fowls and first for his timely visiting us, if any easterly winds be aloft, we shall have him for a fortnight and sometimes three weeks before Michaelmas and for plenty it is almost incredible, for when the chief time of hunt is we have more plenty of this kind of fowl only, then of all other sort laid together, the chief plenty is between Michaelmas and Christmas, and in these three months, he visits most houses; their chief taking is in roads in woods with nets erected between two trees, where in cock shute time(as it is termed, which is the twilight, a little after the break of day and before the close of the night) they often taken sometimes two, three, or four at a fall. I have myself often times taken six at one fall; and once, at an evening, eighteen, and it is no strange thing to take an hundred or a hundred and twenty in one wood in 24 hours if the hunt is good, and much more have been taken though not usually. It is strange to think from whence these fowls should

come in such sudden sort, as they are found to do, for if there be not one seen, or to be found in the country, if at any time the east south east or north east wind blows cold and sharp, this country will be full within twelve hours; and yet in the counties which lie east of this, not one to be seen or found a month after. Then again the nature of the fowl is not to flee in the daytime nor at night but to rest all day in the wood, and all night abroad in the fields feeding; and only flee one flight out of the evening out of the wood into the fields and every morning returns again into the wood; so that it to be marvelled from whence they come, or whence they breed, for if they should come from out of the eastern countries, yet were very likely they should be seen to fly by day or night, which as I have said before is against their nature; also they should be found in those countries which lie east of this shire, as are the counties of Carmarthen, Cardigan, Brecknok, Radnor and Salop, in which counties you shall hardly find any three weeks or a month after this county is filled with them; further they come not one by one or few, but at sudden all parts are replenished with them, so that some men of judgement are of opinion, that they are to be numbered *inter animalia impersecta* and raised by the mere easterly wind of some substance here in the county the like whereof you may read concerning other fowls and worms in Plynie.

The plenty of this and other kind of fowl, has been such in a hard winter, as I have heard a gentleman of good sort and credit report that he had bought in St David's, two woodcocks, three snipe, and certain tails and blackbirds for a penny, and surely it will not be believed in other places, what penny worth are had of fowl in this country yearly.

Besides these two kinds of fowl which we account among household fare, the country yields great store of other sorts, as the mountains foster the grouse and heather cock, which are always in season, and the plover both grey and russet; the sea cliffs harbour the wild pigeons, the close house the tame, in the bogs breed the crane, the bittern, the wild duck, teal, and diverse others of that kind; on the high trees the heron shows, the shoveller and the wood quistles. The heron shows are also found in many places on the sea cliffs, but chiefly on high and stately trees, to which places they soon allure by placing of horseshed bones upon branches of trees, which will provoke them to look of the places; where they breed they come in companies, so as you shall have in some places twelve or fifteen nest upon a tree. They breed three times in the year if the young be taken away, otherwise but once; they hatch first about April and May and commonly bring forth at the first sitting four the second three and lastly two young.

In the field breeds the partridge, quail, rail, lapwing, and lark, and many other sorts of small birds, and in shrubs, groves and hedges, breed the pheasant though rarely in this county.

The curlew continues always in this county, yet never found to breed, and they fly in small herds together.

The country yields also diverse other fowls, as wild geese, whynards, the puett, the curlew nave, the gwylin, sheldrake, both forms of divers or dippers, the pilwater, the wigion, and the coot also keep in companies, seapies and diverse others.

And as I end my last chapter of fish with three strange natural fish, so let me shut up this chapter of fowls with the like, or which I find two, the one strange in account, the other in nature.

The first of these is the puffin, a bird in all respects, bred of birds of his kind, by laying eggs, feathered and flying with other birds in the air; and yet is reputed to be fish; the reason I cannot learn. But if I were so ceremonious as to refrain flesh at seasons, I would hardly adventure to eat this fowl for fish; yet is a waterfowl lesser than the duck and larger than the teal, footed and beaked like unto them and breeding in the island of St David's and other like places.

The second is the barnacle a goodly bird in all respects, like the wild duck, but much larger, having a head and a foot like to the duck, and is eating like it also. This featherless bird is bred of no parents but engendered by secret nature, out of some piece of timber, remaining long in the sea and at ship's sides having continued long in salt water, out of which upon long strings or ropes shall be seen ten, twenty, or thirty of these birds, growing out of two shells like mussels shells, where you shall find some beginning to peep out of the shells, having a perfect form of a fowl, some more ripe ready to fall off having wings, legs, and bodies of feathers hanging only by the bill. Of these I have seen many, and as the people reports, and verily are persuaded these be the barnacles for other breeding there is not found of them.

Chapter XVI

Of the usual measure of Land in Penbrokeshire, and how the same differs in the sundries Parts thereof.

The usual measure of land in this shire, much differs from the statute acre, for it differs altogether in summing up, as also in the land pole, being the original of all the measures of land for whereas the statute *de terris mensurandis* appointed the pole to be sixteen feet and a half, and that four of there poles in breadth and forty in length make the acre, which being summed shows the acre to contain of planometry, one hundred and sixty of these poles in length and breadth.

In Penbrokeshire the pole is different almost in every hundred of the shire from other for in some places the pole is but nine foot and in others twelve foot and so differing between both as shall appear; and this seems to be first so devised according to the goodness of the ground, for in the best soil is used the least measurement, and so of the contrary. The pole being known they differ altogether in summing the acre from that of the statute, but do agree therein among themselves, which is as follows.

Eight poles in breadth and twenty in length, or four in breadth and forty in length, make the stang, which is just in account (though not in measure) with the statute acre, and the difference is only in the length of the land pole; and

four of these stangs make the Penbrokeshire acre, so that in accompted the Penbrokeshire acre is four English acres; but by reason the pole of Penbrokeshire is less than that by statute the acre if Penbrokeshire is so much less than four English acres. And this must be proportioned according to the difference of the pole, for where the pole is found to be twelve foot long, there the Penbrokeshire acre is somewhat less than three English acres, by so much as the half foot in the statute pole does yield in surplus; for if the English pole were sixteen foot then should the acre of twelve foot have been just three statute acres.

And for the true knowledge of the land poles throughout all Penbrokeshire, I have reduced the same briefly into a table here following where is shown how the pole difference in every part of the hundred through the shire by every half foot from nine foot the shortest until twelve foot, being the longest land pole; wherein if I shall seem to miss in some particular hamlet or townred, which perchance of late has been altered, yet for the generality the same is the nearest to the usual measurements used in the shire

The land batt or pole of	Kemes	12 ft	in length
Penbrokeshire is in	Kilgarran	-- --	
-- --	Dewisland	-- --	
-- --	Rowfe	-- --	
-- --	Dungleddy	Anglicana	11ft in length
		Wallicana	11ft in length
-- --	Narberth	Anglicana	12ft in length
		Wallicana	10ft in length
-- --	Castlemartin	9ft	in length

Of the acres are made Ox Lands,

Of the Ox lands Plough lands

Of the Plough lands Knights fees,

And Knights fees in some parts of the shire, are made into baronies which is the uttermost and greatest portion of land measure that this country yields, which for the better view and ease of the

reader I have reduced to tablewise as follows, shewing also how many acres each contains of the country measure.

8 acres maketh an oxland

8 oxland maketh a ploughland being 64 acres

10 ploughlands maketh a knights fee, being 640 acres

20 knights fee holden of the king 12800 acres

5 holden of the earldom of Penbroke make a barony

Chapter XVII,

Of the Weights and Measures used in Penbrokeshire as well Dry as Liquid

For weights and measures, this county, although in many kinds it does differ from that which is common and usual measure observed throughout the realm, yet does it agree in inch, foot and yard, in the quart, gallon and pound weights, saving that in such places as I shall hereafter shew the difference: But for the stone, bushel, gallon, and in diverse other, they use difference as well from the usual measure of the realm, as in diverse parts among themselves within the shire.

And first to begin with the **corn measure**; the same in the three market towns is accounted and ought to be sixteen gallons or double winchester, though some towns seem to encroach upon it, and on that account, I have seen and heard much exclamation, but hereof little reformation. This kind of corn measure is usual in all parts of the shire that frequent these three market towns.

In Dewisland ,or St Davids the **bushell** is accounted to be somewhat more but the higher Kemes and the hundred of Kilgarran for that Cardigan town is their common market , use the measure of that town which is double Haverford measure, or near about a barrel of Bristowe band, and in all these bushels, oats, and oaten malt, is prefer or wrung down in the peck and then filled by heap, when other grain is stricken. To sell corn by the Quarter is not usual in this county, neither are the cranoke, or way measure used in the selling thereof, but by bushel only, and so making up their higher account by the score and hundreds.

The stone of wool is in those parts of the county that haunt the shire markets aforesaid, accompted 17lb. but there is no wool sold usual in these three markets within the shire, as shall be showed later.

By the todd there is non sold except it be to an English buyer that comes a purpose and makes his bargain by the todd, as a weight best known to himself.

For liquid, or wet measure, as I said before we use here the usual pint by which we proceed to make other measures of greater account, as quarts, gallons, bushel,&c. Which is the custom in most of this shire, save upper Kemes and Kilgarran, where two wine quarters make a Cardigan quart, and eight wine quarts to the Cardigan gallon, by which they sell butter and honey but in Cardigan and those parts that use the large measure, they have taken up the former small quart to sell wine, ale and beer by, and so contented use pots and cans of far smaller measure to deceive the people although they well know how to enhance the price, which is one of the greatest abuses that is born with in these parts, a matter what does not a little impoverish the commons, being the most vendable merchandise that unthrifty people seek after.

Silver ,Gold, plate and pearl are bought and sold by troy weigh, as is used in other parts, and all spice, iron, rosen pitch and other drugs are sold by the avoirdupois pound.

Iron is sold by the stone, which consists of sixteen pounds avoirdupois, of which stones eight makes the hundred of iron and twenty hundred makes the ton.

Coals are sold by the barrel, which is of Bristowe band or near about four Winchester bushels, and not by the chaudron as is used in other parts of the realm.

Lime is sold by the bushel and so by the hundred, and not by the seam or horse load as in other place. This lime bushel is a very small measure, the true quantities whereof I have not yet learned.

The hundred of lime is now usually sold between four and five shillings, being finely sifted for plastering and suchlike work, but for land at three shillings and four pence.

Herrings are sold fresh by the mese, which is 500, each hundred containing six score, over which there is a custom used among different kinds of fishmongers, to have fifteen of warpe, that is three with every hundred, and five of tale, that is one cast by every hundred to keep tale and true reckoning, how many hundreds are told out, so that being accompted together the mese consists of 31 score of herrings.

Oysters also sold by tale, as by the hundred and thousand and not by the bushel, as is used in London; The thousand of oysters, at the water side, is usually sold for ten pence of a shilling, if it be not enhanced of late years.

Salt is sold to the country people by the salt bushel, which is a measure by itself, small in respect of the corn bushel, it consists of ?? gallons, but the merchants bargains are commonly by the barrel and often tymes by the ton; but in bargaining by the ton, it requires that it be expressed what number of barrels the ton shall be, for of late years it is much altered, and ton tight, which commonly used in bargains of freight, differs from the ton by measurement, both of corn and salt.

Chapter XVIII

Of Faires and Markets yearly used in Penbrokeshire

I have before declared that there are three market towns in Penbrokeshire (viz>) Penbrok, Haverfordwest, and Tenby, the second whereof being seated in the midst of the shire and most convenient for trade, is greatly frequented by the country people and therefore is the greatest and [most] plentiful market of the shire, and is kept once every week on the Saturday, wherein me thinks the town is very backward in their own profit in not suing for another market in the middle of the week which would be to the great good both of the town and the county; also they have but one fair in the year, whereas if there were more purchased from her majesty, it might be beneficial both for town and county. This market of Haverfordwest is thought to be one of the greatest and plentiful markets (all things compared) that is within the marches of Wales especially for the plenty and goodness of victuals, as namely, for beef, mutton, pork, bacon, veal, goose, capon, lamb, connie, turkey, and all sorts of wild fowl in their season; that it is a marvel to many where the victuals that are there to be seen at noon, should be shifted away by night and for fish it passes all others in Wales without any comparison, both for plenty and variety.

Pembroke market is also on the Saturday and Tenby on Saturday, and on Wednesday for corn.

These two towns for their market are much inferior for plenty of victuals and corn to that of Haverfordwest, by reason those towns are seated, the one very near the lower parts of the shire, and much hindered by reason of a ferry on the one side; and Tenby seeming as it were a town, running out of the county, and stayed on the sea cliff, by reason whereof they stand not so commodious for resort of people, which makes less trade, and utterance in their markets; but both these towns being being seated in a more fruitful soil than Haverfordwest is, for goodness of victual are nothing inferior, if not better than, and so for goodness of corn and for fish, especially Tenby, where is a daily market thereof, that passes either of the other, and therefore is called in Welsh *Dynbych y Pisent*, that is the fish Tenby for difference between it and Denbigh in North Wales. But as these markets are highly to be commended for plenty and goodness of victuals, so have each of them a great name of a good market, which being reformed, as easily it might be, would greatly turn to the good of the market and the market men; that is there is no use of sale of live cattle in any of these markets, which is the chiefest commodity and commendation of many great market in England; for in the markets of this shire there are neither horses, oxen, kine, calves, sheep, lambs, swine, nor any cattle, brought or offered to be sold, so that the poor man wanting money, and having cattle to spare, cannot have money for the same till summer faires come, which begin not before the 16th of June and end in November, whereby it comes to pass that what forever the husbandman buys in the six months of December, January, February, March, April, and May, he buys all to be paid for at the fair days, when he may have money for his cattle; and by this means the rich man eats up the wealth of the poor man, so as in this respect, it may be said of the poor man of this county, as the poet says of the oxen, sheep, and bees &c “*Sic vos non vobis*” &c. This is a mighty inconvenience in the commonwealth of this poor county, and with a little industry of the better sort of people, might be redressed; for if they did but begin the use of bringing cattle to the markets, the poor man that wanted money should know where to have it to serve his use; and also those that want either oxen, cow, sheep, or hog, know not where to supply their wants, for want of this usage which I have long wished I might see some good men would enterprise to induce and no doubt God would prosper the action, and all good commonwealth men would commend and further.

There are also markets of victuals used in St David's and Newport, not worth the speaking of, partly

for that they be so small and bad but specially for the abuse, for that the same is used every Sunday before service, even about sun rising.

There have been in times past diverse markets used in diverse other places, and by reason of the poverty of the towns and inaptness of them, altogether decayed, as at Kilgarran, St Dogmels, Fishguard, Roch, Market Wiston, and Llawhaden, where, by reports of ancient men markets heretofore have been kept

Also it appears there had been a great market at Newport every Thursday, as well by tolls received from the same as may be seen from accounts, as also by fair deed yet extant, which passed between the Lord of the Manor and all his tenants, and freeholders of Kemes in Edward first's time whereby they bind them and their heires and tenants not to sell any thing without first offering the same to be sold at the market of Newport, and there to pay toll for the same, but now there is no use of this nor any regular market there, which among other things, I suppose to have been the chiefest cause of decay of the town.

Having now spoken thus much of the convenience and inconvenience of the market of this shire, I will speak of the fairs now in use in this county, wherein for brevities sake, I will observe and lay down what fairs are kept within the shire and not observe the usual order prognostication in placing the fairs of every month together, for that there are not fairs within this shire for every month.

Fairs in Penbrokeshire

Haverfordwest –	17 th July, St Thomas day	a great fair
Penbrok	St Peters,	a small fair
Munton juxta Penbrok	both Holy Roode Days	
Tenby	St Margaret Day 20 th July, 8 th Sep Nat, Margaret	
Newport	16 th June, St Kirick's Day	a great fair
Eglwyserow in Kemes	Ascension day, Corp Christi, the Monday after St Martin's	a great fair
Llawhaden	18 th October, St Luk's	a great fair
Narberth	St Andrew's day	
Wiston	28 th Oct St Simon and St Jude	a great fair
Kilgarran	10 th Aug St Laurence	no cattle
Marthry	Michaelmas day	
Trevyne	St Martin, 11 th Nov	a small fair
Stackpole	St James Day	a small fair of small ware
Jameston in Manerbyr Parish	St James,	small fair

These fairs I find granted by charter from the king among records of the town, but not used or kept.

At Dale, a market on Wednesday, a fair in vigillia festo and crastino Exaltations sanctae Crucis, which is 14th September

At Redwalles, a market on Monday, a fair in vigillia festo and crastino St Edmundi Regis which is 20th of June

At Henllys, a market of Thursday, a fair in vigillia festo and crastino Apostolorum Petri & Pauli

Chapter XIX

Of the Wants and Defects that the County of Penbroke naturally has and of diverse Inconveniences in the State of the County.

Having before spoken of such commodities as the county yields, it might thereby be guessed what wants are also in the county; but I will here briefly touch some defects and wants which the county naturally has; as also remember some in commodities and annoyances found in the country, which by the good industry of the people, might be redressed; which inconveniences practised in the country are no less noisome than the natural wants of diverse things which the soil yields not.

The greatest want that this county accounts itself to have is fruit, as apples, pears, pineapple, plums, apricots, walnuts, and such likes, whereof there is a small store or none at all, which want, although it may be thought partly to proceeds of the nature of the soil not being naturally apt to nourish wood, yet certain it is as much by neglect of the inhabitants, in not planting, preserving, and cherishing of fruit trees; for it is found by experience that in diverse places there are found good orchards, well thriving and proving; for although the country be much bordered by the sea and subject to the vehement winds thereof in winter season which nip and make the naked bushes to stoop, yet or no villages but the same is sheltered from the winds, by some hilly land, and in such valleys the fruit timber are found to be very fruitful; and especially in old time about religious houses, as also gentlemen's houses, and by divers good husbandmens houses, not only orchards stored with all kind of fruit timber, but also about most houses of account and country villages, pretty groves of wood, as the ash, maple, elm, and such like and divers rare timber, as the pineapple tree, the spruce and fir trees, the mulberry tree and others which tax our country people of great negligent in this point.

But although Penbrokeshire wants fruits of the county breed, yet may it say of fruit as England says of wines, that there is no great want thereof, but that store of apples, pears, warders, and walnuts is yearly brought hither by sea out of the Forest of Dean and from Somerset in such plenty as you shall in every market be served as good cheap therewith as you shall be in the cheapest fruit countries, especially from Michaelmas till Easter during which times boats come continually with fruit to be sold, which most commonly return laden with oysters; but you will say, this draws a great store of money out of the county which by good care and industry might be reserved; which cannot be denied.

Another want that pinches this country, is scarcity of timber and wood, for the soil being naturally unadapt for wood, there are but few places to be found stored therewith, and that not in general, as in the woodland counties it is to be seen; where every man has somewhat, were it but his hedgerows; but where wood is in this county it grows together in one forest, which is of late years, by ill management, much impaired, and almost in mens memories living utterly decayed; whereof I have spoken before, Chapter 10, where I discoursed of the several sorts of fuel.

A third want is want of enclosures, whereby a multitude of towardly young wits are spoiled by employing them to be herders, spoiling in that idle trade, both outwardly their shape of body, and inwardly the gifts of mind, of which sort I find by just account that there are 3000 and more young people employed in this idle education, which is not the least inconvenience of Penbrokeshire, and which deserves more speech thereof, than I now purpose to afford in this place, for that I have touched it before, where I speak of the ill mannered of this county.

Another thing is the want of good schools, for the bringing up of youth in the knowledge of God and good arts, being the chiefest ornament of the mind, without the which, as Cato has said "*Homo est quasi Mortis imago*". In this I have not found our ancestors so provident as zealous. In their concept towards the religious houses; for of abbeyes, priory's and nunneries, there were diverse erected and founded by particular men, yet never one free school or college, for the bringing up of youth, has ever yet been provided, and if any were the same is now otherwise employed, to the burden of their souls that that miss employed the same. But I account one chief impediment of not having good schoolmasters in the county, to proceed from the last inconvenience which I named, that is that most of the youth of the husbandmen are employed in herding of cattle, when their age requires to be instructed in learning, or some manual or mechanical art; so that if store of schoolmasters were procured out of universities, yet could not the parents spare their children from bringing them up among their *Biesse* as they call them, to attend for good instruction; and although considered the championship of the county, this inconvenience might hardly be redressed, yet if every man would join to redress the same, as much as his power would yield, the same might be rendered to a far less number, if every village would maintain one or two herds for the townredd, as in most places in England is used, and not every householder of the town to employ two or three young herein; and to take order that he who was brought in his youth therein, should continue in the same all his life time, and not employ him that had been a herder a dozen or sixteen years, to smother as vile an occupation, and in his stead train up another youth therein and so by consequence to bring them up all among beasts, to be beast people:- but this will be remedied when it please God.

A fifth inconvenience, is the not bringing of live cattle to the weekly markets,, the inconvenience whereof I have already spoken of in the chapter of fairs and markets, and so do only remember it in this place for order sake

The want of fish ponds is another great want, whereof also I spoke before more at large; to which also maybe added the want of hop gardens.

Another want and inconvenience is the not working of our own country wool by our own people, but sell the same unwrought to other countries, it being one of the greatest commodities that this county yields, and was able able to set all the idle of our county and many more a work. It is lamentable to see and remember how the trade of clothing used in ancient times past in this county is now utterly neglected, whereby thousands were maintained which now live idle, or upon other trades; and yet by elimination, I judge that there is now twice as much wool shorn in Penbrokeshire as was forty years past, and then all occupied and wrought within the shire, and sold in friezes, and now also sold unwrought. I know not how this blindness has damned our eyes, not to look into this maladie so easy to be cured, but to say that it is the predestinate will of God whom I leave it to be reformed.

The last want that to will here recite shall be a breed for horses, whereof the country yields few or none, which is more by neglect, then for any urgent cause, although the want of forests, parkes, and enclosures may seem to be a great cause, yet are there some gentlemen if they were so inclined, that might well keep two of three breeding mares upon their demesnes; which, care being taken for the well covering them of them might well furnish their stables with sufficiency and surely three of four mares to be well kept for the stud, I know it, by experience, yields more profit than any other cattle of that number and like charge.

I have spoken of eight wants that I chiefly note in this country, of which the first four although that cannot be repaired and altogether redressed by man's industry, the nature of the country soil being against it; yet the four last might with care and diligence of the people, be wholly reformed; and what good thereby would ensue to this poor country, let the discrete reader judge.

Having now spoken of the wants that breed discommodity and decay of profit, which is grievous for me to write, and to all well wishers of our country good to read, I will trouble the reader with a want or two of our pleasure; which is the nightingale and the pheasant, whereof our county has few of none. Of the first there are certainly none to be found, nor ever heard in any age whereof we read of here; which some judge to proceed of the coolness of the county, or for want of pleasant groves, but that is not likely; for although generally the county to be champion, yet there are in the same some pleasant groves and valleys; and I have heard the nightingale in counties and places in Wales. As subject to cold, more than many parts of Penbrokeshire is; neither do I consent with the fable fathered upon St David, who, as the tale goes being seriously occupied in the night time with his divine orisons was so disturbed with the sweet tuning of the nightingale, as he could not fasten his mind upon heavenly cogitations as at other times, being let by the melodies of the bird, praying unto the Almighty that from that time forward there might never a nightingale sing within his diocese; and this say our women, was the cause of consigning the bird out of this county:---- This much to recreate the readers spirit.

As for the pheasants in my memory there were none bred within the shire until about sixteen years past; Sir Thomas Perrot, Kn, procured certain hens and cocks to be transported out of Ireland, which he pursued to endemism in a pleasant grove of his own planting, adjoining his house at Haroldston, giving then liberty there where they partly stayed and bred there, and near at hand; but afterwards chose other landlords in other places, and as I hear, of no great multiplying; so are they not altogether destroyed, but some few are yet to be found in some places of the shire, though but thin

Having mingled together the wants of the country with the inconveniences of the same, I cannot overpass a great and inconvenience, which I had almost forgotten, which is the multiplicity of sheep marks used and kept by one owner, in one cott or fold; which *prima facie* may seem as a thing of no importance, but being thoroughly weighed, is of no small moment; for by this means the rich overreaches the poor, that those (lawfully as they think) steal from the true man; the mighty man oppresses the mean, and all this is and may be done without danger of the law and without redress of the wrong; and therefore let me crave patience to speak a little as brief as I may.

The use of this County is to turn sheep to go at liberty all the winter, without guiding or herding them, for that all the neighbours sheep are mingled together; in which sort they continue to April or May, when every man gathers together so many of his sheep as he can find, and brings them to his fold, which then he sets forth. The evil minded man will have in his cott 8, 10, or 12, or more marks under colour of which he will send his people immediately after St David's day, to look for his sheep up and down the country, 6 or 8 miles round about him, and look how many sheep he finds with any of his 12 marks, he brings them home, whose forever ever they be it sourced not, so they be thus noted, nay let them somewhat differ from all his marks, yet they his own and he will colour that by saying it was sheep he bought in the fair, and could not get his full mark upon the same; and if he be taken with this, why says he is no felon for he took it to be his sheep, and verily believed so; and if the true owner have any to prove the sheep be his, let him take it; and so if the owner follows not his sheep very speedily, and be not only earnest, but demanding it, his sheep is lost and so *Si Spy, Sport. Si non spy, tunc stele*.

It is not a few hundred of sheep that are yearly stolen in this country by this colour of ear marks, insomuch the enormities grows so great that upon complaint to the counsel of the Marches in An Reginae Elizabethae 35 very profitable orders were devised for redress of this business, and for suppressing of other felonies in Wales and sent enclosed to the sheriff's and Justices of the Peace to be put into execution, which at first being hotly and heedfully looked into, did much good; but as all inventions in process of time received either corruption or grow fastidious so these good orders are now almost forgotten, but utterly neglected.

Thus having been too tedious in this chapter, yet not so tedious as the as the enormities themselves are to our poor country, I will only recount and close up this speech, with the only naming of one more, which is the diversity of weights and measures used in this one shire , as of the acre of land, the bushel, the gallon, the stone, and such like; which breed no small inconveniences in the commonwealth, the which is already sufficiently provided by good laws, if our evil customs would suffer us to conform ourselves thereunto.

Chapter XX

Of the administration of Law and Justice within the County of Penbrok, as well by Common Law of the Realm, as Law for Causes Maritime, and appertaining to the Admiralty of England; together with the Government, Civil, and Ecclesiastical, practised and used by Laws Civil and Canon, By the Archbishop and Bishop of the Diocese, and how and where this shire does participate therein, with other countries of the Realm, in general and where, in particular, within itself and lastly, of the Government Martial and Military there, under the Lord Lieutenant

In speaking of the government and administration and justice now used, I will here somewhat touch on how the **common laws** of this realm were many years practised and used wholly in this country, in much large and full sort then now it is by force of the statutes, made for the ordinances of Wales in the 27th and 34th year of Henry the 8th, for whereas it was the meaning of the king and Parliament to reduce all the country of Wales to one uniform government and to be governed by one general law and that as near as might be to the laws then used within the realm of England, yet is it not the common law practised in so frank and free a course in Penbroke, as the same was before the said statutes, for that for many things we are in general words included with other parts of Wales, which before that time was not shire ground, and referred for original writs, processes, pleadings and some other matters to the form used in the three shires of North Wales, which part of Wales was reduced into shires the 12th year of king Edward 1st who, in the eleventh year of his reign slew Llewelyn ap Griffiths, the last Prince of Wales of the British line and took the the principalities of Wales into his possession and in the 12th year of his reign made the statutes of Ruthlan called Statuta Walliae whereby he divided that part of Wales, which was in the possession of the said Llywhelin at his death, into shires after the manner of England, and ordained officers therein as in shires of of England as sheriffs, bailiffs, coroners &c and ordained the common law of England to be practised in such sort as is laid down by the said statute which could not then be induced in so full a manner as it was used throughout the realm, but was forced to conform to his ordinances, applicable to the then state of the country, and as the nature and condition of the people might best endure, and so it continued until the 27th of Henry. But long before the time of the said King Edward the 1st, Penbrokeshire had been subdued by Strongbow, our first earl in the time of King Henry the first, surnamed Beauclerk and by him made a county, and the laws of England fully and absolutely brought by him, and so practised any alteration or diminution until the said 27 Henry 8th when the rest of Wales was made shire ground, where in many things, we of Penbrokeshire, for conformity to be had in government throughout Wales, were referred in in many points to the use and customs of the three shires of North Wales; so that to bring our neighbour shires more English, we were forced to become more Welsh; and truly, this has bred and still does foster inconveniences to us of Penbrokeshire, in the administration of laws fitter to be concealed than opened in this place.

But to come to my purpose, we have now the selfsame practised in Penbrokeshire as used in the 12 shires of Wales by the said statutes of Henry 8th, which in effect are the common laws of England saving, in some few points where it differs as well by the said referments to the customs of North Wales as in some alterations by said two statutes of King Henry the 8th.

And first, in general, we taste, with the rest of England, of the rule and government of the high court of Parliament and have by the said statutes of Henry the 8th. Place and voice in Parliament as other shires of England differing only in this, that we send but one knight for every shire, and one

burgesse for all the borough's of the shire; whereas every shire in England have two knights and every ancient borough two burgesses; and the state and poverty of our cities four in Wales, being then well known to the king and counsel, they send no citizens to the Parliament. This freedom we now have, which was not permitted to Welshmen before, neither were we subject to the statutes of England.

We are also syntheses the said statutes and ordinances for Wales grown subject to the authority of the Courts of the Star Chamber, Chancery and the Courts of Requests, at Westminster, by what means I know not, *quia non fuit sic ab initio*, neither are there any words in those statutes to that effect.

We are also forced to be subject to the Courts of Exchequer at Westminster, wherein it is thought of some, that the subjects are much wronged, and the Prince nothing furthered, but rather hindered; for by those statutes there is an Exchequer erected in every three shires and officers appointed for the king's receipts, and awarding further of profits against all farmers, accomptants, and debtors of the king's to appear before them in their Exchequer, where the king's debts out of Wales are better paid than at Westminster; and yet is there yearly process sent down from Westminster into every shire in Wales so that the Exchequers here erected, for the ease of the subjects of Wales are places only so named, but not practised.

Also the Courts of Wards and Liveries at Westminster, do also call all wards in Wales to sue further their liveries thereof, to sue further commissions, *post montem*, and all inquisitions are returned into the Chancery at Westminster; whereas, in all king's times before the said statute, and long after, we of Penbrokeshire did all theses things at home in the Exchequer of Penbroke, which, if it were yet so used, were more ease for the subject, and would prove far more beneficial for the Prince, as I can make evident by plain proof, and yet there are no words in the said statutes to force us to this matter, only us is that has induced this,

We are also subject to the Courts of King Bench and Common Pleas, in some special matter of debt, and for statutes and recognizances, but not in any other matters.

We are also governed by the Lord President and Counsel of the Marches, and the four shires of the Marches, which Lord President and Counsel, have the authority of the Star Chamber and Chancery; which court in some things yields great ease and benefit to the subject of Wales, although, in some other things they feel grief.

But to come near home all pleas of the crown, as appeals, indictments of murder, rape, felonies, and trespass &c. pleas real and mix for lands are, and must be sued at home in the shire; neither have the courts in Westminster any authority in any of these matters; but all must be begun, pleaded and tried within the shire, (errors only excepted) which in real and mix causes, the King's Bench; in personal, the Counsel of the Marches have to determine, But all other actions, personal and mixed, are, and must be sued at home, in the great sessions, and there to be tried without appeal, or removing to any higher court, which is the greatest benefit that we of Wales enjoy above all the subjects of the realm.

We have also Sheriffs yearly of our own countrymen who execute all the judgements and precepts of the law, which sheriff is ordained and elected by the said statutes of King Henry the 8th to be yearly charged and chosen by the King himself and his counsel; whereas, before it was shire ground, we had a sheriff which used the office by patent for term of life.

We have also by the said statutes of Henry the 8th, justices of the peace, of gentlemen of the shire, which are appointed by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper, by the advice of the Lord President and Council and Justices of Assizes of Wales and they have their commissions under the Great Seal of England. Of these were none in Wales before the statutes of Henry the 8th but are only ordained and elected by the same. For before that time, security of the peace was had before the stewards of the lordship royal, either by precept or by writ to the sheriff. These justices kept sessions of the peace quarterly, and do appoint constables of the hundreds, as is used in England. and in all things exercise their office as justices of the peace do in England. The number of these justices of the peace are more or less as pleases the Lord Keeper of Lord Chancellor to alter or appoint; but the number now inhabiting within in the shire is 19, besides the 9 first who are chief officers of state or else of the counsel of the Marches

The Sheriff has also a county court erected to be kept monthly, for matters determined in the same.

There are also two coroners in this, as in every other shire in Wales, chosen by the commons of the shire, by the king's writ obtained further under the great seal; and also an escheator yearly chosen, whose patent is also under the great seal; these two last officers were also here in Penbrokeshire before it became shire ground; but then they held their offices for life, as I said before of the sheriff.

Petty constables are also in every parish of limit, as the same is known by ancient custom, which is an ancient office from the beginning, and not erected nor spoken of in the new statutes of Henry the 8th

The shire is also divided into divers lordships or seinories, some large, some lesser, in which are court barons holding *de quindena in quindenam* for trial of small matters; and a leet court twice every year for punishment of common enormities.

The towns also being corporations, have respectively courts of record for trial of personal actions of what sum so ever, before the chief officers there, and out of all these courts in the county before named all matters are removable to the said great sessions, and not elsewhere, by writ of *Corpus cun causa, certiorari*, record are false judgement or error as the case requires, and this in effect is the substance of all the temporal government, as the same is used in Penbrokeshire at this day.

Next unto the temporal government aforesaid, for the preserve of the life, lands and goods of the people, comes in course to speak of the **law maritime and civil**, used with the said county, which causes civil and maritime consist of two kinds, that is of causes criminal and civil; of causes criminal, as treason, felonies, robberies, murders, confederacies, spoils, piracy, conspiracies and all other offences done or committed within the jurisdiction of the King's Admiralty of England; that is, of all those and the like offences done in or upon the main sea or in any creek, arm, or branch of the same; or within the full sea mark, and beneath or between the first bridge and the sea; and for the hearing and determining all these and the like offences; as also, for any offences done against most of the of the penal statues of this realm; and for the observation of the peace within the admirals jurisdiction aforesaid; there are special justices of Oyer and Terminer, made by commission under the great seal of England who, by force thereof, keep sessions of *Oyer and Terminer*, and of goal delivery, and there are all the said offences heard, tried and adjudged, according to the court of the common laws of this realm, and of the laws civil and maritime and according to the laws of the Admiralty of England, and for the speedy trial of prisoners and delivery of the goal; for these offences a commission always is extent in the country.

For causes civil there is a vice admiral appointed over all South Wales, who has deputies under him, who have commission to deal in all causes of the Admiralty, and to determine all causes civil arising

between party and party, and to keep courts for trial thereof; as also of enquiry of causes criminal, and for these causes maritime are determined by the laws civil; there is also assigned a judge of the Admiralty learned in the civil laws, in these parts of Wales, who also keeps courts for trial of causes; and besides there is a register and sergeant of the Admiralty substituted for the service of these courts and officers, which court of the Admiralty has to determine all causes concerning the freighting of ships and vessels, all contracts debts, accomplish, strife and trespasses arising or made within the full sea mark, or bargains and contracts, made or to be performed beyond the seas; and to the Lord Admiral belongs all traitors and felons goods, or felons themselves, and dead land, wreck, flotsam, jetsam and lagan, shacks eyes and treasure trove, had or found within the admiral jurisdiction; also, he is to enquire of anchorage, lastage, and ballast; and lastly the admiral and his deputies is coroner within his authority, and to take inquisition *super visum corporis* of persons drowned, killed or otherwise dying within the said jurisdiction. But for that few of no matters concerning the same there are few or no dealings practised in that behalf in the county, and the offices little or nothing occupied therein.

Lastly, as concerning **ecclesiastical government and juriisdiction**; this county of Penbroke is within the dioceses of St Davids, and the province of Canterbury, who execute the authority ecclesiastical over the subjects of this county. The archbishop has his primer visitation the first year of his consecration, and during that year received all civil causes to be determined before him, and has procurations of the clergy and has the like upon the death of every bishop within his province. The bishop also has under him officials or commissioners to execute the law civil and canon, at home, among the people in each archdeaconry who hear and determine the causes of tithe, matrimones, and testamentary, and of the like nature, as also incest, adultery, fornication, heresies, simony, usury, perjury and such like offences against the laws, civil and canon; they also receive probates of testaments, and grant administration and collation; the county of Pembroke is; for the most part, within the archdeaconry of St David's which is subdivided into deaneries, which in times past had each of them rural deans who executed the spiritual authority within their several deaneries by commission from the bishop of the diocese, as I do find by divers letters of Administration and probation of testaments in old times, but this had been reduced and given to one commissary wholly, who deals with one and sometimes two archdeaconries. The names of the deaneries in the countie of Penbrok and archdeaconry of St David's are these that follow:

Deanery of Pebidiawke

Deanery of Dongledy

Deanery of Rowse

Deanery of Penbrokeshire

and some few parishes of the archdeaconry of Carmarthenshire are in Penbrokeshire.

Also the Deanery of Kemes and half the Deanery of Emlyn (viz) Ifkeach, are in Penbrokeshire, and in the Archdeaconry of Cardigan.

And now as concerning the **government military**, the aim was in former times for arming, mustering, and levying of men done as in the rest of the shires of England and Wales either by commission or letters to the Sheriff and Justice of the Peace of the counties directed from the higher powers until the 29th year of Queen Elizabeth, that all Wales and the Marches was committed to the government of a lord Lieutenant, and when Henry late Earl of Penbrok, then lord president was made also lord Lieutenant by her majesties letters patents, who for that he could not attend the execution of so great a charge in his own person, in so many shires, it pleased her Majesty by her

letters to authorise the said Earl of Pembroke, to make choice of certain principal gentlemen in every county to be his deputies, to exercise the said office of lieutenancy in his absence whereupon the said Earl by commission, under his Lordship's seal of arms dated 9th April An. Elizabeth 29th did nominate and appoint Sir Thomas Perrott, Kn. And George Owen, Esq to be his deputies, within the county of Penbroke, and all privileged places within the same county joining with them the mayor of the town and county of Haverfordwest, for the time being, whom he also made his deputy with them in the said town and county of Haverfordwest only, and gave them his said deputies, his absolute power to execute all things in his absence, who, thereupon, according to instructions from her Majesty viewed the force and people of the country and reduced the number of 500 into training bands under seven captains which were trained and instructed in feats of war and use of their weapons for the defence of the realm, by a muster master chosen for his skill for that purpose; which number of 500 trained men, although the same exceeded the abilities of the shire, being but small, poor and weak of manner, yet were they forced so to do for their own defence, being a county most subject to invasion by reason of Milford Haven, for in the year following being 1588, the Spaniards then having vomited their malice to the view of all men, the country men of themselves entering into consideration of the imminent peril they were subject unto, were forced to their great charge, and impoverishment to augment the number of their trained bands. And for that afterwards question arose, whether her Majesties letters, under her signature were sufficient warrant to the said Earls of Penbroke to appoint deputies, it pleased her Majesty to renew the said Earls commission of lieutenancy, under the great Seal of England dated 2nd December *An regni fui 30*, and therein to give him authority to name so the said Sir Thomas Perrott and George Owen, were by her Majesties letters patent aforesaid appointed deputy lieutenants of the said county of Penbrok which deputy Lieutenants continued their place till the troubles of Sir John Perrot, when, by means of Sir Christopher Hatton, An Eliz 32 1590 Sir Edward Stradling, Sir Willaim Herbert Kn, Thomas Manfell and Richard Baffet, Esq. Of Glamorgan were appointed deputy lieutenants of this county, who so continued until the 25th of October An Regni Reginae Elizabeth 37 that Sir John Wogan Kn George Owen, Thos Revell and Francis Meyrick Esq. Were appointed deputy lieutenants, under the great seal, within the said county under the said Earl, who so continued until the 19th day of January 1600, that the said Earl of Penbroke died, by whose death their authorities ceased; after whose death Edward Lord Zouche was made lord president of the counsel of the Marches and had commission to be Lord Lieutenant of Wales dated 20th July an Reginae Elizabeth 44. and then were appointed deputy lieutenants of this county William Wogan, George Owen, and Alban Stepneth Esq. Unto these deputies was the care and charge of all matters martial and military committed; who according to the utmost abilities of the county and people took care therein; having also a well practised muster master of the same county to instruct the trained bands in marshal discipline, who has his pay of £30 per annum of the country. There are also two common store houses of armour, powder and shot carefully looked unto, and attended by two several stipendiary armourers paid also by the country, all which, as one united body join in care and readiness for defence of their country and service, when occasion shall require to the utmost, and somewhat beyond their and abilities, being more forward in heart than able in purse within that their neighbours, by whom in peril they must be seconded, and would example themselves herein by this poor and little shire.

A pamphlet conteyning the definition of Milford Haven wherein is particularlie sett forth all or most of the Roades Creeks Points Harborowes Riding George Owen 1595 (extracts --original English)

It is entitled, " A pamphlet conteyning the definition of Milford Haven wherein is particularlie sett forth all or most of the Roades Creeks Points Harborowes Riding Places daungers and other matters of worth within and neere unto the said Haven searving chiefly for the ex- plaining and right understanding of a Mapp made of the said Haven of Milford by **George Owen** of the Countie of Pembroke Esqre. A.D. 1595."

" It is," he says, " a lardg and spacious harborowh entering into the main land by estimation sixteen miles long or more having all that space sufficient water to receive shippes of 60 or 600 Tons and in many places thereof the greatest vessell of whatever burthen that it on the seas may safely ride and harborow itself. The Haven after the entrance bendeth diverse waies making good land suckers over every Roade of the same and shooteth forth on everie side divers large and spacious creeks making diverse landing places and safe harborowes from all winds and is of itself calm and gentle having within the same many good roades and coves &c. and for form it may be likened to the picture of some greate crooked and forked Tree having many boughs and branches some greate some little growing even up from the Butt to the Topp and the same branches being lopped and cutt off some nere and some fair from the bodie of the tree &c.

" Depth of water. Att the entrance of the harborow or the Haven's mouth and soe up very farr there is 16 fathom water and more at low ebb and at the ferry it is 8 or 10 fathom deepe att low water and as far up as Llangorne it is alwaies 6 fathom and good riding all along the channel.

"The water within Milford Haven riseth att full sea in a springe tide ffower fathome high and at ebb tide two fathome and between both according to the date."

He points out three places for fortification, viz., Ratt (Thorn) Island, the Stack, and Dale Point. Mr. Owen gives the dimensions of each of these islands, and recommends that the high ground in the centre of each should be hewn down. Thorn Island, which he erroneously calls also Ratt Island, measured

18 perches in length, and 12 in breadth. It is about half a mile from the blockhouse on the east side of the haven, farther in. A fort here, and at Dale Point opposite, he rightly says, would, " if not utterly de-fend it, yet would greatly annoy any shipp that should offer to enter the Haven, and also the fort would annoy and defend both the roades of St. Marywell and Dale being the two cheafest roades of Milford so that no shippes of the ennemies's should ride there without annoyance."

He describes the Stack Rock as a low ridge of stones running east and west. He makes it at the foundation 43 perches or 693 feet in length from east to west, and 12 wide, or 198 feet. " It was," he says, " so much covered at high water that only the ' Mount ' and a few points remain dry, the Mount being 48 feet by 24. This," he adds, " may be hewn so as to be three score square feet for a fort above high water. It is of a red sandstone easily hewn. There is a passage right through the rock. There was then plenty of water," he says, " for ships to pass between the Stack Rock and the shore."

The Dale Point. " This," Mr. Owen says, " was the terminus of an old mound, probably Danish, which with little labour would be repaired and made a stronghold and it is thought that if ennemies should land thereabouts that it weare one of the likeliest places they would first fortifie." It was 51 perches west and east longitude, and 21 broad north and south, the trench was 18 perches over.

" Nangle blockhouse, East" he says, " never was finished and was begun in temp. Henry VIII. for to ympeach the entrance into the Haven but for no good purpose for that stood too high." It is now a small ruin.

" St. Marywell Roade" he terms " the chieftest roade of Milford and safest upon most winds large and good anker hold and is about 16 fathoms."

" Pennar Mouth is the creek that cometh upp to Pem- broke towne. This is the largest and greatest creek of all Milford. It passeth up into the land 3 miles and more and at the upper end it parteth itself into 2 branches and compasseth about the Towne and castle of Pembroke serving the said Towne for a moate or strong ditch on every side thereof; a bark of 40 or 50 tons may enter this creek at low water and ride at ankher att Crowpoole but noe further without helpe of the tyde. The Crow is a shallow or shelf a pretty way within the entrance of Pennar and is neere right against the very entrance and it is an oyster bedd, on the Crowe groweth the best oysters of Milford." He mentions that the poor people gathered them there without dredging. "It is a bigg and sweete oyster."

Of Milford itself Mr. Owen little dreamt when he thus dispatched its site, " Hubberston Point is the point next by west of Priory Pill the description whereof serveth to small use."

" St. Anne's Chapel," he says, "forms after Precelly the only landmark to steer for as there appears to be no haven to all appearance at sea owing to the turn to the east which the Haven takes and which hides it from sight till it be entered." He recommends as a good policy that " if the enemy were on a sudden known to be at sea it would be a good plan to deface this landmark and erect it somewhere else to cause their shipwreck ! "

Dangers. He mentions a strong current between Stokholme Scaldey and the mainland beyond the mouth of the Haven.

Letter concerning the defence of Milford Haven 1595

"Right honourble and our singular good Lords;

The bounder of duty wo owe to her majesty, the conscience whe have for the safeguard of the whole Realm, and the care that in nature and reason, we carry of this our country, have emboldened us to offer this discourse unto your honour, concerning the safty of them and us all.

It becomes us not to fear neither do we doubt of the wise and good consideration, that you and the rest of the lords of her majesty;s most honourable privy council have had, and shal have for the preservation of her majesty and the realm; but, yet, fearing your want of due information touching the estate of Milford Haven and the adjoining parts it may please you to understand, that the Haven in itself,being neither barred to hinder entry, nor to be em-bayed to let issue forth, is a sufficient harbour for an infinite number of ships, which haven being once gotten by the enemy, may draw on such fortification at Pembroke town and castle standing upon a main rock, and the town and castle of Tenby, with other places near unto them,as infinite numbers of men , and great expense of treasure, will hardly, in a long time remove the enemy, during which time her majesty shall lose a fertile country.

Also, it is to be remembered that the soil near the said haven yields corn in such abundance as would suffice to maintain a great army; and the sea coast near about it yields great plenty of fish; the haven also stands very commodiously to receive victuals from France, Brittany or Spain; all which things may be an occasion to move the enemy to affect that place before others.

And also, there are in Penbrokeshire, eighteen castles; of which, though there be but two or three in reparation, yet are the rest places of great strength and easily fortified by the enemy, some of which are so seated naturally for strength, as they seem impregnable; also there are, in that shire, to be seen, in sundry parts thereof, divers sconces or forts of earth, raised in great height, with great ramparts and ditches to the number of 26 or 27, which, in times past, have been places of wars; all which castles and forts would yield great advantage to the enemies to strengthen themselves in such fort that it would be an infimite charge to remove them from thence.

Again the same is situated within 7 hours sailing to Waterford, and Wexford in Ireland, so that the enemy having to invade Ireland (and by report we have heard, he has) this harbour in this haven, may serve him to great purpose.

Furthermore being lord(as it were) of these seas, by possession of the Haven, what spoil he may make along the Severn on both sides, even to Bristol may easily be conjectured. And if he (which God forbid) should enjoy Brittany withal, our English merchants can have no trade, which will decrease her highness's customs, and decay the navy.

If it be thought that he may be kept from landing , neither the force of men nor furniture here will serve the turn considering here there be many places where he may easily land, and he may come upon us within half a day's sailing, we having no ships at sea to defend him. And how these our small forces may be in readiness to withstand him, we refer to your honour's judgement.

Or, if it be thought that her majesty's navy royal be able to conquer them, being once in this Haven (and that by them fortified)it would be found very hard by reason, that upon every little storm, for want other harbour or bay, to abide in, they should be in great danger if wreck, and no land forces are able to expel them; whereupon, we humbly pray your lordships to consider whether it be not expedient for the withstanding of the enemy, that he obtain not this harbour, to have a convenient number of ships of war, and fortifications, to defend the same, which preparations if the enemy might percieve, we believe verily it would alter his mind from adventuring his navy upon this coast.

And, whereas of late Mr Paul Ivy, was sent hither to survey the Haven, and to consider of fit places for fortifications what report he has made of this opinions, we know not; but sure we are that his abode about that service, was very short, and his survey very speedly dispatched; so that because none of us were privy to his to his intent or concept, we do yet retain some hope , that if some other men of experience were sent down hither, to consider of all the said circumstances, some such report would happily be made unto your honour, and the rest as some better event might ensue for the safety of this poor country, and the whole realm; then (as for ought we know) has been determined upon especially, if the party shall have instructions to view the town and castle of Tenby, being a place elich may be easily made of exceeding strengh, as was not seen by Mr Ivy * nearer than two miles distance for ought we can learn.

**[Acc to Fenton "At a place, as some pretend to say, on what authority I know not, called from him Ivy tower, now the residence of William Williams esq, where it was believed the voluptuous surveyor found a magnet of more powerful attraction than either Milford or Tenby"]*

Thus having we hope discharged the duties of true and faithful subjects, we humbly commit your good lordship and all your grave counsel, to the blessed protection and direction of Almighty God, from Carmarthen, the 8th of November 1595

Subscribed Thus

Your Lordship's most humble at command

Anth. Menev

[Anthony Rudd was at that time Bishop of St David's- he lived at Aberglasney]

John Wogan

George Owen

Francis Meyrick

Alban Stephan"

Four several Letters, verbatim, were sent to

The Lord Keeper

The Lord Treasurer

The Earl of Essex

The Lord Buckhurst

And a copy thereof enclosed in a letter to my Lord of Pembroke sent by Robert Davy, Esq. Receiver of South Wales, to be delivered to their lordships.

Chapter XXI

Of the Use, Order, and Form of Conveyance of Lands and Tenements, used in ancient Tyme within the Countie of Penbroke and of divers ancient Words and Phrases used in old Tyme, now grown out of use, and not understood; and how the Conveyance differs at this day from that of ancient Tyme.

Having been occasioned to view and peruse many ancient deeds, writings, and tenements in Penbrokeshire, I find in many things much difference in the some and manner of conveyance in this age, from that used in ancient times, which now is grown strange and unknown to many people at this day, and therefore I thought fit to speak somewhat therefore in this treatise, to the end that the memory thereof might not decay, as also for the better understanding of some strange and unusual terms and phrases not known to every clerk of this age; about which you shall understand, that as this country was called *Little England beyond Wales*, so had it in ancient times received the ordinary means of conveyance of lands then used in England. For whereas the counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan being the next shires adjoining and for the most parts of Wales before the statutes of 27 and 34 of Henry 8th (whereby Wales was made shire ground) all lands and tenements passed by surrender in the lord's court according to the laws of Howel Da; so that in these counties you shall find no deeds, releases, fines or recoveries of any lands before the 27th of Henry 8th except in certain boroughs and English towns, where the same same was used of the English people; yet ever since the coming hither of Earl Strongbow into Penbrokeshire, which, as I said before was in in Henry the first, his time when he brought with him and his followers the use of the English laws and he and his people used hence to pass all their land according to the ceremonies of the laws of England (viz) by fines and recoveries, feoffments and livery of seisin (saving in few lordships where the use of copyhold was induced and so continued where the tenants kept their old customs to this day, and do pass all lands by surrender in court, as in many lordships is used in England).

But now to show in what courts, by what order, and with what terms and phrases these conveyances passed, is worth the knowing for many purposes, without the knowledge whereof you may peruse many deeds, and not understand the meaning of them.

And first you shall know that fines and recoveries for the most part passed in the county court of Penbroke, held before the steward of Penbroke, the sheriff, and suitors of the said court, which county court was a court of record, holding all manner of pleas of the crown, real, personal, and mixed; but this court, upon the bringing in of shire ground as before is shewed, was held to be dissolved, and has ever since discontinued, and in lieu thereof, a new county court erected by the said statute, held now by the sheriff alone not any thing approaching to the old dissolved one in perogative and magnificence. In this ancient county court were all fines levied (save in certain lordships of Penbrokeshire that had peculiar jurisdiction within themselves) and these fines were prosecuted upon writs of covenant, and other writs as was used in the common pleas at Westminster; and recoveries were also were also passed upon writs of entry, in *Le Post* and other writs, as before is said, and used in the same single and double vouchers very formally; as to such lands as were passed by feoffament the same feoffaments were made in Latin or French; and of these there were deeds and livery of seisin and attornment upon the same, and afterwards to have releases to extinguish further right and sometimes letters of attorney in the deeds to execute livery of seisin

The difference that I find in those ancient conveyances from these of our time, I will briefly run over, with as few words as I may.

In fines in old times, if there were divers tenements in several townredes, the use was to express how many messuages and what quantity of lands and of the several sorts of land was in every townrede; so that thereby would be apparent how many messuages, and what quantity of land should be in each townrede, and in which townrede the mill lay; whereas now a days the use is to huddle the several parcels of many townrede's together, and now the fine aforesaid should thus be levied.

It was also usual upon all fines wherein any reversions were to pass, to enter in the fine the attornment of the tenants, which was and is a thing very material and a good course, though now a days wholly neglected.

For recoveries they passed in ancient time, as they now do, with single and double voucher, as the case required, only thus differing; in times past all or most common recoveries passed upon writs of Entry in *Le post* but now lately it is doubter whether the same be warrantable by the statute of Rutland before mentioned, to which the statutes of 27 and 34 Henry 8th referred us now as before is said, and therefore of late years another course has been devised and followed.

The feoffments were all by deed, living, and attornment and releases sealed, made usually in Latin, and sometimes in French, as the use then was. Of these feoffments there are infinite numbers yet extant of great antiquity, sealed with sundry fair seals of armes of divers gentlemen engraved some before the use of date, and some dated in the time of King John, Henry 3rd and the three Edwards, and so downwards; and thereby I find the course of deeds and writings observed in very ancient times to be without date, and within the body of the deed in the later end, to have the names of the witnesses written, and not to have them endorsed as now is used; wherein I also take note, that in most of these ancient deeds I find the principal officer and men of every country, as yet well known to be named as witnesses, and most commonly equal in degree, or near to the parties to the deed; as if the deed were made by of to a lord, lords were commonly the witnesses; if between knights then knights,&c. Whereby it is at this day conjectured that all deeds were done with solemnities, and sealed in some great assemblies as at sessions county or leete courts, or such like meetings, or else it is thought that so many chief persons could not be brought together so usually to sealing of deeds as we find them named almost in every deed of that age. And although the deeds of those times bore no date yet by reason of such principal men, as are commonly found to be witnesses in those deeds who are men known and noted in memory to this our age, the time may be guessed when the same was written, for that most commonly these witnesses are in the country, men known when they lived and where they dwelled, as John de Gaunt, Humfrey, Duke of Gloucester, and Richard Nevell, Earl of Warwick, and such like are in England; wherefore for the better knowledge hereof I have collected together the notes and witnesses of divers ancient deeds of Penbroke-shire, reduced into a perfect and easy form to be viewed amounting to the number of about 1800 names of men of note that lived in Penbroke-shire.

In these ancient deeds I find divers forms which would seem very strange to the clerks and scriveners of our time, whereas now they use to take statutes and obligations for performance of covenants in indentures; the use in, in old times was to swear the parties for performance of the covenant.

Another use was to have a clause in deeds that if the seller of his heirs should sue, molest or trouble the buyer or his heirs for the same land or break any covenant, that then the land in whose lordship the seller or his heirs should be found, should destain him and his heirs by all his lands and goods until he should enjoy the land quiet and until he perform the covenants and a sum of money or butt of wine given to the lord and to the officer that should show distraint him for pains in the distress.

And in some deeds the seller and his heirs would, by his said deed submit himself to the bishop and to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, to excommunicate the parties till he should perform the covenants, or suffer the party to enjoy the lands quietly.

This uncouth and strange manner of conveyances used in Old Time I thought good to give a taste of to the reader in this place, whereof I have in my time seen a multitude, and have presently many in my custody, yet now is it a course so strange as that divers men wonder even to hear of it.

The use of subscribing witnesses in the body of the deeds began in this country, as far as I have observed by perusing of those ancient writings about the time of Edward the 1st and 2nd, in whose reigns I did of both sorts, some having witnesses and some not, and it seems to have continued here in Penbrokeshire till the time of King Henry the 6th and Edward 4th and then, and about the beginning of King Henry the 7th deeds were sealed without either witnesses names in the body of the deed or any endorsement thereof on the back: and about the middle of the reign of Henry the 8th, the use began to endorse the witness names on the back of the deed; and this to be done by the witnesses themselves, if they were literate, otherwise by some clerk or other for them; about the time also of Henry the 8th began the use of subscribing the parties name under the deed near the seal, which, at this day, is grown to be a matter esteemed so necessary, as many think the deed very weak without is although our laws require no such ceremony – They differ also in ancient times in the clause of warrantee, thus

“Et ego vero predictus A: B: tenta predicta cum pertinent : contra omnes homines et feminas warranti- zara tenemut.”

---- Possibly *Homo* was the masculin gender in those days or at least *Femina* not so well known to be of the common gender as many are in this age. Also I have seen warrants

“contra omnes Christianos & contra omnes Mortalas”.

And among all others a clause of warranty I thought worthy of noting for the rareness thereof, which I find in a deed by Galfridus de Rupe to the Monks of Whiteland of Lands in Parvey, whose words are these,

“Et hunc eis donationem contra omnes homines Justiciabiles Francigeros Flandrenses Anglicos & Wallenses warrantizabo & heredes mei”

This deed is without a date, whereby also is gathered one proof that the Flemish, as also Frenchmen were then in Penbrokeshire

In the quantities of land mentioned in fines, recoveries, and deeds, there was difference also from the present use, usually the number of acres, or lay is laid down, whereas in ancient times they used to express the same by the names of a knights fee, plow lands, ox lands, acres, stangs and yard land. And in divers ancient deeds I have seen expressed what plowland, and what knight's fee in what baronies and counties the land lay.

You shall also find certain terms used in ancient times in deeds, which are now scarce understood by clerks of our country, as in the words in *Rodvallo* or in *Rodvallis*, and sometimes written *Rudvall*. I have found these terms in many ancient deeds, and for a great time I took the same to be the proper name of some townred of parcel of land, until by conference of many deeds I found the same properly applied to lands lying scattered in many pieces in some field or townred, and this word *Rudvall* is used by the common people of this country at this day for any land that is taken as common among the neighbours at certain times in the year.

Also I find in many ancient deeds this word *tenements* which signifies some times the manor or lordship, some times the parish liberty or townred, wherein the land lies.

You shall also find in divers ancient deeds, this word *Gabellum* or in *Gabello*, and sometimes *Gabalario*. Now this word *Gabellum* which I never saw or read in any writings or surveys (saving those concerning lands in Penbrokeshire) signifies the state of the tenant that holds the land to be either at will, for years, or for life, paying rent for the same, and not of land held in fee simple, or fee taile, for in many deeds you shall find “*Quam quidem terren Johes: Philip, tenet in Gabello*” that is as much as to say that John Philips is tenant in the land, and that he holds the same at will, for years, or life, paying rent: and you shal also find in many ancient rent rolls, and surveys, this difference in the rents as *Redditus liberorum tenent*: and *Redditus gabulariorum tenent*; the one being chief rent, as it is usually called paid by the freeholders or those that have state of inheritance; the other is meant of rent of all tenants that hold of the manor at will or by lease for life or years; and this, among the common people of this county is yet usually called Gael Rent, and such tenants Gael Tenants.

Also, I have found in many ancient court rolls the heading of the role to be *Curia secrta de N*. This was always the leet court of the manor ; because at these leets it was used to call all people to depart when the jury gave up their presentment.

The use was also among the clerks of the age, in old times, upon mortgaging of lands to make absolute estates by feoffament without any condition of redemption in the deeds and to have besides a pair of indentures, mentioning the mortgage or most commonly an obligation from the mortgagee to the mortgager for the redemption of the lands which often times bred much law and discord, and arrested the parties to wrong: therefore to this day, the same is almost forgotten, and a better course brought in place, to make the deeds of mortgage conditional.

Chapter XXII

Of divers general and particular customs used and allowed of within the County of Penbrok, as well Temporal as Ecclesiastical

For that there are some customs received and allowed in general through all or most part of the shire it were not unfit to speak of them, letting the learned judge of their validity as the law will.

And first I will begin with the tenants of the county wherein I speak in general, including therein the greatest number which in times past were tenants at will, and few sought leases, for the most commonly the landlord made rather suite for a good tenant to take his land, than the tenant to the landlord; such was the scarcity of good tenants in those days there to be found, that glad was the landlord to hit upon a good thrifty and husbandly tenant; and as for fines to be paid, it was not a thing unknown among them a 100 year past saving only an earnest penny at the bargain making, which the plain men calles a God's Penny. And within this 60 years the poor tenants were wont to say, that the paying of fines was an ill custom raised among them of late. And surly the letting of lands was of so small commodity, that I know lands in *Caer Cynerg* between heirs, where the next to the land has had the setting and letting thereof these 60 years and more, the other contenting himself with his part of the rent, not esteeming what might be made by fines thereof. But this ancient good custom within this 40 years past is forsaken and almost banished the country; for now the poor tenant, that lived well in that golden world, is taught to sing unto his lord a new song' and the landlords have learned the text of the damned disciple "*Quid vultis mihi dar & ego vobis illum tradam*". And now the world is so altered with the poor tenant that he stands so in bodily fear of his greedy neighbour, that two or three years ere his lease ends, he must bow to his lord for a new lease, and must pinch it out many years before to heap money together; so that in this age it is as easy for a poor tenant to marry two of his daughters to his neighbours sons, as to match himself to a good farm from his landlord.

This use of tenants at will was so common that there were many other customs grounded upon the same, for they were not tenants at will at the common law, to be put out at the lord's will at any time of the year; but they were tenants at will according to the custom of the country, and were not removable without two lawful warnings to be given at usual feasts, that is, the one on Our Ladies Eve in March, and the other at May Eve; and the was the old tenant at Midsummer to remove out of the Hall house, and to leave it to the new tenant and the pasture to be common between them till Michaelmas, and then the old tenant to depart *cum pannis*, and to leave it wholly to the newcomer; and divers other orders there are duly observed as yet among these tenants, which for brevity sake I here pass over.

These kind of tenants by the custom of the country, were to pay heriot at their death(viz) their best beast, and also were chargeable to the repair of their houses, hedges &c. And there is observed an order worth noting, and for the same has been about 12 years past found and presented before myself and other commissioners upon a survey for the Queens majesty, the last which I think worth the remembrance in this place, that is as follows ----

If a tenant suffers his house, hedges or buildings to grow ruinous, the landlord used to summon a jury of six of his tenants of the like tenure and custom, whose turn may be next to taste of the like source, to view the decay, who must and aught, according, upon their oaths. Present the same indifferent between the lord and tenant; which done, the landlord by his bailiff or reeve, used to arrest so much of the tenants goods upon the lands found in decay, and the same to keep, if the tenant will not give surities to answer the goods, or to make the repair; these goods must be priced by the said jury or two of them or two other honest men, and then a reasonable day is given to the

tenant for making the repairs, which, if he does not perform by the day, then may the landlord take so much of the tenants goods as the jury has found, and sell or keep the same, as he pleases.

And if the said jury so summoned does find less than the decay is in favour of the tenant, then may the landlord swear a new jury of 6 other like tenants to enquire as well of the repair as of the concealment of the first jury, and if the second jury find more repair and decay, then the first did, then must the landlord levy so much money of the tenants goods as the first jury found, and deliver the same to the first jury, and then is the first jury to make the residue of the reparations upon their own charge, and the lord by the said custom, has like remedy and means to come by the repair against the said first jury, as he had against the tenant.

Also the lord, by custom used time out of mind in this country may have his action of debt against the tenant and executors for the said repairs, wherein I have seen divers recoveries in my time, and the defendant in such action shall not wage his law for so much repair as is found by the jury.

This custom of repair held only for thatched houses, the landlord were to repair them, except it were by special covenant. This much I have been bold to insert in this place because I have been present where several juries have severally found customs aforesaid in every point upon their oath, and the same certified up to the Exchequer at Westminster, of which jurors being in the whole the number of 34 persons, divers of whom were gentlemen and freeholders of good discretion and living.

There is also a custom used in the courts of this shire which I do not hear is used in other higher courts, that is, that a plaintiff, in an action of debt, upon any speciality, or other contract, if the defendant lose by default or confession in sort then must the plaintiff swear his debt before he shall have judgment, this is not used only in the meaner courts but also in the higher.

In ancient times, I also find a custom used in most base courts within the shire that for matters presentable and inquireable, either in court baron or court leet, that the common amercement was 7 shillings, let the trespass be great or small, or the default of necessity or wilful, which I have seen used and allowed in my time; but this is much altered of late years, and, as I judge, upon good reason, in answering every man, *secundum quantitatum delicti*.

Also, by general custom of Penbrokeshire, all courts baron were holden and kept, *de quinden in quindenam* and not from three weeks to three weeks, as by the laws of England is allowed.

There was in times past, in some parts of this shire, especially where *gravel kinde* was, a custom used called *Redwall* custom, which was that no action of trespass lay for pasture in open fields out of enclosures, which custom I myself remember to hear much spoken of, though mightily cracked, in my young years. This custom seemed somewhat reasonable among the gravelekind men, for that at every descent, the lands were shared, and so the whole land of the country grew in small pieces, that of necessity the owners must graze in common, and therefore, some some reason there was at the first for inducing the same; as also in townreds, whose lands lay parted in common fields, but this custom in most parts, as the lands grow now to be entire soils, is most almost worn away, although among some trouble some people, it were good the said custom were restored to lie, but for the general otherwise, and this custom, although it be almost abolished, yet remains in name and term thereof very useful among the common people, for the time after harvest when all the neighbours cattle run together, in the common fields, they call *Redwall* time but of this term *Redwall* I have spoken more before in the last chapter, as may appear.

There goes also a report of a custom for women to have the third of all their husband's goods and leases, and many have it without denial, but this custom has been of late sore shaken; and yet languishes very weak, hardly like to recover, except the women of our country would erect an inn of court and study law to defend their common cause, wherein I would think they were likely to profit, for that where of many ripe wits and all ready tongues.

Although there are many particular customs used in sundrie places for paying of tithes whith which it is not my purpose to deal, yet is it not impertinent to speak of some generally used throughout the shire and liked and allowed of all hands --- Such is the paying of tithe cheese, by paying only 9 cheeses for all the year (viz) 3 for every month of May June and July, for all tithe of milk, butter and cheese, for all the year and do not pay *decimas be lacte*, as by law is due.

They also pay no tithe calves, or colts, but of for bullock, heifer, or filly, at a year old, and a penny for every horse colt at that age.

Also, one tithing pig for every farrow after the first, be there pigs fewer or many, and one goose, and one kid of every owner if he have two or upwards.

But of these ecclesiastical customs I might write a whole volume but this shall suffice for this place.

Chapter XXII

Of divers famous and learned Men, that have lived or been born in the county of Penbrok, in former times, whose Works are left and be extant to Posterity

This little shire of Penbrokeshire being but small in circuit yields but a small number of learned men to be spoken of, that have left any of their works behind them, yet for that I find some mentioned in former writers, I thought good for the better memory of these worthy and profitable members, not to suffer them unremembered in this my description of their country, most of them being naturally country men born, the rest being the fewer number, for that their native soil was uncertain; yet for that I find and know by certain means that they are Penbrokeshire men by habitation and long abode. I thought good rather than to omit any worthy of remembrance, to insert them here, wherein as I have been chiefly aided herein by the painful works of Mr John Bale who has written among many other good works of his, a particular volume *De Scriptoribus Britannia*. So I find some also mentioned by other good authors, and some from of the later age of my own knowledge and memory, adding altogether to make up a small number of this my country writers; wherein I for some respects omit the now living writers, recommending their names to be registered by their own works, till further occasion be ministered to catalogue their own names with these that follow.

Beginning first with the most ancient, I find Patric called

Patricius Magnus,

who, as says Humffrey Lloyd, was born in Roose, whom on this point I take for my Author; He lived about the year of Christ 432 as says Bale; he was brought up in in great learning with his uncle Martin, Bishop of Tours, a man famous in his time, he instructed the Scots and Irishmen in the Christian religion and died in in Ireland Anno Saluutis 491 in the 122year of his age. This St Patrick founded a monastery at St David's out of which was afterwards founded the cathedral there, as shall be shewn after. He lies buried in Down in Ireland together with St Bridgett and Columba, as appears by these verses

Hitres in duno tumulo tumulantur in uno Brigitta Patricius atq; columba pius.

He wrote these books:-

Ad Cereticum Tirannum Epist. 1

Ad Avalonias Incolas Epistola una

Ad Hibernenses Ecclesias Epistola plurima

Ad suos Britannos Epistola plurima

Dubricius Gwaynianus

born near the river Gwayn, and from there took his surname, a matter very useful for the learned sort among the ancient Britons, as Owen Kyveileog, David Ddu Hiraethog, David Nantmor, Lewis Morgannwe, Afferius Menevensis,&c. And is used at this day of our chief Bards now living.

This river Gwayn is that which goes to Fishguard and runs through the valley called Diffryn Gwayn; neither do I know any river in Wales of England of that name, but this river only, so that of necessity this must be the river and soil where he was born and dwelled, and therefore there is no likely hood that he should take his name of the river Wey called in Welsh Gwy, for says John Bale writing of this Dubricius, *a Solo apud Demetas fic dictus*, so that is plain he was a Penbrokeshire man born, which people only are the Demetra, for the River Wye approaches not near any part of

Penbrokeshire, neither is there any other river or brook in all the shire called Gwayn, save this only that runs by Fishguard, beside he is remembered yet in ancient writings in the Welsh tongue by the ancient Bards, by the name of *Dubric a Langweyn*, sounding the B in that place after the Greek Beta, as is usually done in that language. This Dubricius says Mr Bale, in his youth was famous for his singular learning, saying *Maximus apud Britannos Vir erat*; insomuch that not only out of his own country but of the regions round about, there resorted great flocks of scholars to be by him instructed in learning, so that he kept famous schools upon the river side of Gwayn. He was a mighty overthrow to the Pelagain heresy, which in his time had corrupted the whole church of Britain, and for his excellent learning was made Archbishop of Caerleon and Metropolitan of Wales, by Aurelius Ambrosius, King of Britain; he being Archbishop, crowned Urther Pendragon, and after him the worthy King Arthur, in whose time he died the 13th day of November in the year of our Lord 522, as says my author, His fame so flourished after his life, that 598 years after his death, his body was removed from his first burial to the church of Landaf, by means of Urban bishop of that see.

The works left behind him were, as says Mr Bale, these--

Declamationes erudite

Viri Christiana professone &c

In Arthuri Coronatione Oratio

David, commonly called St David,

born in the city of St David, called then Menewe or

Mynyw in the British tongue, and thence of him called St David's

This David was a man of great parentage, and near of kin to the worthy Arthur, king of England by whom he was preferred to the Archbishop of Caerleon, the Metropolitan of Wales and Primat of the same, being in the time of King Arthur one of the chief flourishing cities of all Britain, as is yet to be seen by the ruins there of, found a mile out of the now decayed town in cornfields and other places, where vaults, streets and other buildings are found by ploughing and digging

Mr Bale says, this David over and besides his fame for learning and knowledge, was comely, fair and beautiful, and 4 cubits of height; he built says he 12 monasteries, and by his incessant labours utterly confuted and purged the church of the Pelagain heresy, being thought before his time irrecoverable; he was so inward with King Arthur, that he obtained of the King to transfer the Archbishops see from Caerleon to his own town of St David's, where to this day it remains, although without arch dignity, which long since has been usurped as in my second book, treating of that place I will declare. He lived in the time of King Arthur (viz) in the year 542, and in the 147th year of his age, therein agreeing with the age of the patriarch Jacob at the time of his death, and was archbishop 65 years and buried in St David's in a monastery which St Patrick had founded there.

The wrote the following books:--

Contra Pelagios Liber unus

Homelius Evangeliorum Lib 1

Merlin,

The great prophet and chief bard of his time says Mr Bale was born in Dementia. This Merlyn is famous yet among the people of this age, for the great learning he showed. Bale speaks of two Merlins, the one lived in the time of King Arthur. The other in the time of Aurelius Ambrosius.

Sampson Demeta

is only remembered of Mr Bale, in the addition annexed to the end of his book, who lived about the year of Christ 560, and so passed him over; and so also must I, making mention only of his name, for want of further information.

Johannes Patricius, alias Erigena

A man born in St David's in Penbrokeshire was a student at Athens, and was expert in the Greek, Caldean and Arabian tongues and visited all the schools of philosophy of his time; he having travelled Italy and France, and there received great entertainment of Carolus Calvus and Ludouicus Bulbos; translated the works of *Dionifus Ariopagita* into the Latin tongue; being sent thither from Constantinople Anno Chisti 858, and returned to his country, purposed to live privately at St David's but his fame not suffering it, he was sent for by Alfred King of England, to instruct both him and his children; which King Alfred being by means of his good instructor, inflamed with the desire of learning, by his good persuasion first founded the University of Oxford, and appointed this his schoolmaster to be the first teacher and reader of liberal arts in the same University; but in his later years he withdrew himself to the abbey of Malmesbury where he was slain Anno Christ 884

– of his works these are extant--

<i>De maculatis Ministeries</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De side contra Barbaros</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De Corpore & sanguine Dno:</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>In Hierarchiam Commentarios</i>	<i>Lib: 4</i>
<i>In Theologiam Mysticam</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Pro Instituendis Nobilium Filiis</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Versiones Dionnisi</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Moralia Aristotelas</i>	<i>Lib: 9</i>
<i>Paraphrasicos Thomas</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Eepistolas ad divesas</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Dogmata Philosophorum</i>	<i>Lib : 1</i>

Asserius Menevensis

A famous histographer of his time, a man born in St David's and was chancellor there till by the tyranny of the King of Demetria he was forced to forsake his country, who afterwards for his learning was by King Alfred made Bishop of Salisbury

He wrote –

The British History

The life of King Alfred.

Giraldus Cambrensis

Our dear and loving countryman, to whom above all others our country is most beholden, was born at Manor Byr Parish of honourable descent and parentage, was master of the English schools, in the University of Paris, and moderator of divinity there; afterwards, for his learning required to come to England, was secretary to King Henry the 2nd. And had the education of King John in his youth, and was with him in Ireland, where he wrote the description and original History of that country. He travelled with the Archbishop throughout Wales, and wrote the description of that country also, and then accompanied the Archbishop to the Holy Land, and returning home he followed the cause for the church of St David's at Rome against the prerogative of Canterbury, then first pretended over St David's. He was arch deacon of St David's and Brecknock where he dwelled, he was 70 years of age, and lies buried at St David's; he was a great writer in his time, and a diligent searcher of antiquities, among many of his works, these following came to light ---

<i>Topographiun Hibernia</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Distincrionum ejusdem</i>	<i>Lib: 3</i>
<i>Itinerarium Cambria</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Topographium Cambria</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Epitomen ejusdem Rhythmicæ</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Vitam Henrica Secundi</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Institutiones Principis</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Speculum Ecclesiasticum</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Acta Regis Johis</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De Mundi mirabilibus</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De Machmeti requitiis</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De Vise Saxonis Regibus</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Anglorum Cronicon</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Pro Guidone Warwicensi</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Prærogativorum Corporum</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Dialogorum quoque</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>

He also in his painful travels and journeys to Rome in defence of the prerogative metropolitane of St David's against the archbishop of Canterbury, wrote a book intituled *De Sudoribus circasidem Menevensem*, which, as it appears came to the hands of Sir John Price knight. A painful and affectionate gentleman to his country.

Mauricius Morganensis

Says Mr Bale, born in Penbrokeshire, lived about the year 1210, he was a famous poet in his time, and learned and wrote

<i>Epigrammata quadam</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>In patrio fermone</i>	<i>Libri plures</i>

Adam Hatton

Born at Caer Voriok in Dewisland, descended of a worshipful parentage and for his learning preferred to the see of St David's, was Lord Chancellor of England to Richard the 2nd. He was founder of and built St Mary's College in St Davids in the time of Edward the 3rd.

He wrote

Statuta Ecclesia Menvens

Henry Chichelsey

Was made Bishop of St David's in the year of Christ 1409, and was afterwards translated from thence to Canterbury; he was the founder of All Souls College in Oxford and gave the churches of St Clares and Llangennith in Carmarthenshire to the maintenance thereof; he was of singular wit and flowing eloquence, and was one of the three that were sent to the general Council of Pise, Anno 1409.

He also, in the Parliament of Leicester in the second year of King Henry the 5th, by his wit, learning and eloquence uttered and oration did defend the temporal livings of the bishops abbots and clergy of England, which then, in the said Parliament was valued to be able to sustain to the King's honour and the strength of the realm 15 earls, 1500 knights, 6200 esquires and 100 alms houses for the poor and £20000 a year to the king, and should have been forfeited into the king's hands, and preserved the same from a mighty downfall, which so terrified the clergy of that age, but by this good bishop was quashed and never after remembered till the time of King Henry the 8th.

Thomas Rodburne,

Bishop of St David's, lived in the time of Henry the 4th and Anno 1412

Wrote

Chronicle of England

Stephen Patrington,

Bishop of St David's, although a northern man born yet ingrained by his place in this soil was confessor to Henry the 5th and wrote these volumes, Obit London 1470

<i>Connentarias Sententiarum</i>	<i>Lib: 4</i>
<i>Repertorium Argumentarum</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>De facerdotali functione lect.</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Conta Wicklevistas</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Sermonum 72 De tempore</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Contra Nicolaum Herford</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Sermonum de Sanctis</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>In Eglogas Theodofii</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>In Esopi Fabulas</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Questionum Ordinationes</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>
<i>Epistolarum ad diverfos</i>	<i>Lib: 1</i>

John a Kent

A famous doctor of Divinity, as appears by his divine works, which will not be forgotten till the world ends. He was a learned poet, wherein he had the favour of nature, and therefore has left in the Welsh tongue, left many notable works; he lived in the time of King Richard 3rd. As Mr Hollinshed noted; he was born into the lordship of Kilgerran in Penbrokeshire, as is manifest by some of his own works.

I find another John of Kent that lived in the time of Henry the 3rd but what countryman he was I know not.

King Henry The seventh, King of England

Was born in the castle of Penbroke, and therefore may properly said to be a Penbrokeshire man.

Reynold Pecocke

a learned man, born in Lougharne, then being part of Penbrokeshire, though sentence wrongfully rested away.

Sir Thomas Eliot, kn.

Anciently descended of Penbrokeshire, where his chief house, name, and family is well known, a man whose fame as also his works are sufficiently know at this present, and myself far to mean to commend this knt .. besides the good service of his person in the commonwealth while he lived, employing his labours for his countries good, after his death, and left to posterity very worthy works as a

Dictionary in Latin and English'

The Castle of Health

4 books

The Floures of Wyt

The Governour, a work both rare and excellent for the instruction of gentlemen.

William Owen Esq

born in Penbrokeshire, as also that countryman by ancient descent and progeny, was fellow student and near cousin to the last recited Sir Thomas Eliot, and of familiar conversation together; he was also chamber fellow with the reverend judge Sir Anthonies Fitzherbert, and studied the laws together. He wrote out the large volume of his chamber fellows "*Abridgement of the Laws of this Realm*" being the first abridgement of the laws that was done which work in writing so huge a volume was no less tedious to his body, than it was profitable to his study, whereby he imprinted in his mind as much knowledge of the law as many years study he had gained.(as I often heard himself confess) He profited by the study of law, but not greatly by the practise thereof which he gave over long ere his death., he was the first (among other works of his) that abridged the Statutes of England, and reduced them under common titles, to the great ease of the readers, which he did in the time of Henry 8th in so small a volume, as the price thereof was but 12d whereof some are yet to be seen printed by Richard Pynson, A. 1528, under his name and title.

He also wrote other works, yet not with standing his hard studies in his youth, and continual toil and travel, all his time, he carried to his grave so many years as that he saw in ripe years, the fifth issue, male by descent of the body of his godfather, and was present at the coronation and proclamation of thirteen kings and queens of England and lived under the 14th. One king and one queen were never married; he also saw 8 bishops of St David's and all his life time , was never sick but once, and at his dying day, which was on the 29th March 1574 wanted not one tooth.

Robert Record

Doctor of Physick, a Tenby man born, in his time was a man of much renown for his learning, as he was afterwards honoured for his works, which for cosmography, arithmetic, and geometry, are the rudiments best esteemed above all others before or since his time. Much is our English nation beholdent to the author, neither can his praise be sufficiently blazed for the good he left him, he compiled

The Ground of Artes

The Whestone of Wyt

The Castell of Knowledge

The Path Way

The Urinal of Phisick

He died in the reign of Queen Mary

Thomas Phaer

Doctor of Physick, a man honoured for his learning, commended for his government, and beloved for his pleasant natural concepts, he chose Penbrokeshire for his earthly place, where he lived and ended his days to the grief of all good men at the Forest of Kigarran, being his chosen seat; he translated the *Eneydes of Virgil*, a work none worthily commend, though commended of most, showing in the author, his great skill, learning, and aptness of nature.

Harry Morgan,

Doctor of Laws, for his learning preferred to be bishop of St David's in Queen Mary's time, was born in Dewisland, as worthy in place, as he was generously defended,

Thomas Yong,

Doctor in Divinity, succeeded the said Bishop Morgan in St David's and there hence advanced to the See of York, he was born in Hodgoston near Lamphey.

Richard Davies

Bishop of St David's, a man no less in his time revered for his rare virtues and excellencies in learning, agreeable to his place and calling, than honoured for his public hospitality and liberality in his life time, though suffering many troubles and great crosses, yet so bearing himself, as he was inwardly affected of the good, and never detracted but of the bad. He, for the advancement of God's glory, translated into Welsh.

The New Testamentary

The Book of Common Prayer

Many Notable Sermons.

He died 7th November 1581

Thomas Huett

Chancellor of St David's, a man that all his life bare himself always in good accompt^(?) and estimation, took also much pains with the said Bishop in translating the former books as may appear by the Epistles of them. He died 19th Day August A.D. 1591

Robert Lougher,

A Doctor of Laws, a Welshman born at Tenby, was, for his learning of great estimation, and held the Chair in Oxford for many years, besides other chief places in the University; till worthily he was advanced to be Chancellor of York, holding which place, he died the 3rd of June 1585, where he was born.

Chapter XXVI

Of the divers Wonders and Curiosities of Penbrokeshire

In speaking of wonders, least the reader should wonder too much, I think fit first to describe these things which I will here call wonders; and therefore, I will call wonders these things that for rareness there-of will draw people to marvel there at, and yet no unnatural cause, or matter to be found, for if it swerve from nature, it is more properly (if it comes by the hand work of God) a miracle; if by the operation of nature, then more aptly called a monster than a wonder, for many natural things for the rareness thereof will draw people to wonder at it. Of these such few, as I have noted, to be found in Penbrokeshire, I will briefly note which I comprise under the number of nine.

The first whereof shall be the

Shaking Stone,

Near within half a mile of St David's towards the sea cliff. Where there is to be seen a huge stone, so massive, as by estimation passes the draught of 100 oxen, which stone is in form cornered diversely, and somewhat round and broad, being a stone as hard as marble, unpolished or hewed by any art or labour; this stone is mounted on diverse other stones, about a yard high from the ground, and so equally poised, as that with one finger a man may so shake it as that you may sensibly see it move; and if two or three men, or more sit or stand on it may sensibly see and feel themselves moved thereby. This is reckoned for a strange and rare thing, and is visited of many that have cause to resort to St David's: it is reported of this stone, that you may move it with one finger, and if you put the whole strength of your body, it will not stir; The cause whereof is, for that the motion of the stone is but very little, and therefore, it is not so well to be perceived, if you put both your hands, or your shoulder to move it, as when you you but put one hand or one or two of your fingers. A learned and worthy man seeing this quality of the wonder described it thus:

Concusit hunc levis motus queni non movet ullis,

Cimg; minus moveas, tunc movet ecce magis

It is strange thing to see how eqiponderous this stone is placed upon two stones under propping it, that so small strength should be able to move so massive a body, and it is the more rare, for that it should seem that the placing was not done by any art of man, but by natural means or chance as we call it. The like stone have I found myself in the Haven of Caldy Island by chance, going over stones there under the full sea mark and over flown every tide, but much less in quantity than this of St Davids

Well spring on the top of a high rock near St David's

The second wonder that I find worth of note is a well spring on the top of a high rock near St David's aforesaid, half a mile and more from from the sea, the water being fresh and sweet, that keeps course with the sea in ebbing and flowing twice every 24 hours, and being full at full tide and very low at the ebb. The little children that herd cattle near the place are so acquainted with this well that they will resort to the well on purpose to know how the tide goes and will declare the state of the ebb and flow presently by inspection of the well.

Perthmawr Underground Passage

There is nor far from the shaking stone at a place called Perthmawr, out of a chamber, a passage underground, quarter of a mile, leading to the sea. I myself have not seen this passage, and

therefore, I cannot so largely treat of it as I wish, but it is a thing worthy of place among things rare and strange, as I am informed by them that are acquainted with the same.'

Sea shells found in Marl pits

Another matter I will note here as a strange and rare thing, that is shells of fish, as oyster shells, mussel shells, cockles, limpets, and other shells of sea fish, are found in digging of marl, and this upon high hills, where the marl is found 3 or 4 miles from the sea, and this twenty foot deep under the earth so that of necessity these shells must have remained there since the great flood being now 3909 years since. These shells are very commonly found in the marl pits very deep under the earth and are fresh of colour, but most of them purified and rotten; yet some I have seen round and strong without any kind of putrefication. There is also found in the said marl pits all manner of stones of the sea shore, worn round and smooth by the sea; and all sorts of sea sand, as also pieces of timber un-rotten with the apparent signs of cutting with edge tools, and fire brands with black coals on the one end; all of which confirm the opinion of the common people, that the marl is the fatness and clammy substance of the earth, by the beating and washing of the flood, and so gathering together including within it what so ever touched the clammy substance, and so left in great lumps at the departure of the flood. This kind of marl was found only in the upper parts of Kemes, and in the hundred of Kilgarran, of all this shire.

Roots &c of Timber from under the sea revealed at low tides or after a storm

Another rare and strange thing is to be remembered of certain roots of timber which about 12 or 18 years past were seen on the sands at Newgale by reason, as it seemed, the violence of the sea, or some extreme fresh of the rivers in winter, washed away the sands (which daily is and was overflown with the tide so low) that there appeared in the infinite number of butts of trees, in the places where they had been growing, and now every tide, and there appeared the very strokes of the hatchet at the falling of those timber. The sands being washed away in the winter, the butts remained to be seen all the following summer, but the next year the same was covered again with sands, by which it appeared that the sea in that place had intruded upon the land and near the place in Roos side, there is a townred, called as yet the Wood, although there be not any sign of wood upon the land thereof at this day.

This was noted by Giraldus Cambrensis, who wrote his description of Wales in the time of Harry the 2nd noted; for in his time also these butts of timber were seen, and laid it as a strange memorial to posterities. It has been told me by the neighbours of Coydrath near Tenby, that the like has been seen upon the sands; and Mr Hollingshed reported the like to be found between Penzance and St Michael's Mount in Cornwall Fol: 14.

Bosheston Mere

There is also a pit in the Earth in Bosheston Parish which is called Boshers Mere, where of there are strange things reported, as that at certain times there are ugly and terrible noises and sounds heard to proceed from the same pit, and that a fume or smoke (to mens appearance) often times seen rising and mounting out of the same pit, as out of a burning furnace, and also great flakes of boiling froth cast up out of the hole; and which is more strange, if sheep, or other like cattle, be grazing near the pit oft-times they are forcibly and violently drawn, and carried into the pit; and if a cloak or other garment is cast on the ground, near the pit at certain seasons, you shall stand afar off and see it suddenly snatched, drawn and swallowed up into the pit and never seen again: All which I hear to be true, by creditable report of the neighbours; and of purpose I went to see the place, and do verily believe the reports, and therefore I may well place it here as a strange and rare matter. The cause is, as I guess for the pit is round and narrow, and is within two or three butts length to the sea cliff, the land being all limestone rock, so bare and barren, that scarce any grass grows on the ground,

although it be plain. Looking down into the hole, I find it very deep and broad downwards, and from the bottom there is a great breach to the sea, so that it should seem all the ground between it and the sea to be hollow underneath; and when the sea is tempestuous, the surges enter the concavity with great fury, and the place being hollow, yields strange and loathsome noises, as well all the cliffs are heard, the sound whereof ascends through the hollows of the earth, and is heard near the hole mouth in strange force; and when the waves are forcibly driven into the straitness, the sprays are forced up through the hole, as they do in breaking against the cliff, which shows from afar as smoke, issuing out of a chimney, and casting up pieces of white foam, that swims on the water; and this is the smoke that the people report to see; and when the cave is violently filled with sea surges, so that no air is left in the concavity of the earth, the sea returns suddenly, the air being suddenly drawn down through the narrow hole, is so attractive, as if any sheep, or what thing so ever be found near the brink of the pit, the same is violently drawn into the gulf, and this is the reason of this wonder.

Parish of Whitechurch Kemes no adders found

Another rare thing there is and strange indeed if it be true, as I am persuaded it is, for that place is within the Lordship of mine, and within two miles of my dwelling, and all the inhabitants both young and old do affirm and confirm the same; which is, that in the parish of Whitechurch in Kemes being a parish of 20 or 30 households, and large in quantity, having in it both plain ground, hills, and rocks there was never seen any adder alive, although in the parishes round about they are found continually, as in other places of the country. This being true, as I am persuaded it is, is a thing to be marvelled at indeed and what affinity this parish only and none other, should have with the land of Ireland or with the county of Buchan in Schotland which, as Boettrius writes breeds no rats neither will they live brought thither from elsewhere.

Pentre Jevan Cromlech

Another thing worth the noting, is the stone called *Maen y Gromlech* upon Pentre Jevan land,

It is a hugh and massive stone, mounted on high, and set on the tops of three other high stones, pitched, standing upright in the ground, which far passes for bigness and height, Arthur's stone, in the way between Hereford and Hay or Lech yr Aft, near Blaen Porth in Cardiganshire, or any other that ever I saw saving some in Stonehenge, upon the Salisbury Plain called *charca gigantum* being one of the chief wonders of England.

The stones whereon this is laid are so high that a man on horseback may well ride under it without stooping. The stone that is thus mounted is 18 feet long, and 9 feet broad, and 3 feet thick at one end, but thinner at the other; and from it, as is in apparent since his placing there is broken a piece of five foot broad and ten feet long lying yet in the place; more than 20 oxen would draw.

Doubtless this stone was mounted long time since in memory of some great victory of the burial of some notable person, which was the ancient rite for that it had pitched stones standing one against the other round and close to the huge stone, which is mounted high to be seen afar off, much like to that is written of the burial of the patriarch Jacob or such notable thing, but there is no report or memory, or other matter to be found of the cause of the erection of this trophy. They call the stone *Gremlech* but I think the true etymology is *Grymlech* the stone of strength, for that great strength was used in the setting of it to lie in sort as it does, There are other stones in 3 or 4 other places in the county adjoining as Lech y tribedd near Riccardstone and one in Newport near the bridge; another beneath town, but not comparable in bigness or in standing so high.

(Locusts ?)

And because I have read of wonders of divers countries, which most commonly I have found to be 9 in number; let me make up the like number with a strange event that happened in this county in the beginning of June in the year of our Lord God 1601. which was this--

There happened that suddenly as if the same had fallen by a shower out of the air, a great piece of ground to the quantity of 200 English acres, was covered in the manner with a kind of caterpillar or green worms having many legs, and bare without hair; they were found in such abundance that a man treading on the ground would tread upon 20 or 30 of them; and in this sort they continued for the space of 3 weeks or more. Nor no man knowing how they came nore were any of the like sort seen in the country before or since; and being killed and opened, there was no gut or anything else within them, but only grass they had devoured; the place was on a hill in the parish of Maenclochog, above Fynnon Dewy: they were found as it were with one accord to go one way – up the hill and over the hill a quarter of a mile or more; and as they went they devoured and consumed the grass, that the ground appeared bare and red, like fallow; and after they had continued there three weeks there resorted an infinite number of sea gulls and crows as if all on many counties had been summoned to the spot, who in a few days consumed them all, after they had consumed all the grass of the mountain; Also swine fed upon the worms eagerly, and grew very fat.

This, for the rare event thereof I thought good to speak of among the wonders, although it be one permanent, yet more strange than any of the others.

I could have noted some other things in this county, which for their rarity might have claimed room in this place, but for that I tied myself to the number 9; and least I might become too wonderful, I will rest here and speak somewhat of them in my second book, when I shall have occasion to speak of the places the same are in.

Chapter XVII

Of the Worthiness of Penbrokeshire, and the People thereof in ancient times, and what benefit that Country hath yielded to the Realms of England; how Ireland and the chieftest Parts of Wales was first and Chiefly subdued by it to the Crowne of England.

In speaking in praise and worthiness of the people and this county, if I shall seem forward therein, yet should therefore partly deserve pardon (the love and affection of my country egging me thereunto) and in the same I shall in some things irate that which I have already spoken before in the 5th Chapter; where I spoke of the constitution of the people.

Yet seeing this country among others of Wales, has been famous for their love, loyalty, and service to the kings of this realm, and so affective of the Kings and People of England for the same, that they have termed is a second or little England; let not therefore the same be buried in oblivion, and rather I had herein near taxed with the fault of *tautologia*, in too often repeating one thing, then obscurely to use the figure *Synecdoche* in laying down *pars pro toye*, although when I have done all, I may, I must say *inutilis feruns fum* in not being able to say herein as much as it deserves.

And first as touching the worthiness of the country in ancient time I have before declared how it was a kingdom and further, to cite here the words of Giraldus, which says that by the people of this country, the sea coasts of Wales have been kept in obedience to the crown of England, and overcome and conquered the realm of Ireland; has words also in another place, in commendation of Penbrokeshire men are these – This nation meaning the Englishery of Penbrokeshire, derive their descent from Flanders, as men sent thither to people these parts by King Henry 1st. ‘They are a valiant strong people, in continual conflict of battle; a nation most hateful to the Welshmen; a people addicted to cloth making and merchandise; sparing no pain, nor fearing any peril by land or sea, to increase their wealth; valiant in war, and as times and place require, indifferent for the full or the sword; a nation both stout and happy; if Wales were (as it should be) pleasing to the king, or that the rulers thereof would redress oppression and punish offenders.’ This was the opinion of Giraldus Cambrensis of these countrymen in the time of Henry 2nd at which time he wrote his description of Wales; and whereas Wales was not fully subject to the kings of England, as you may well gather from his words, only this county then held for the kings of England, and had continual conflicts with the then princes of Wales; and who so will carefully look into the nature of the remnant of these people, shall find them not much to differ from Giraldus his words to this day, and confirm his words therein; certain it is that the subduing of the county of Glamorgan to the crown of England, Proceeded from there for Einion; the son of Cadivor ap Collwyn, who first procured and brought Robert Fitz Hamon and his knights to come to Glamorgan, was the son of the Prince of Dyfed, that is Penbrokeshire, and was with his Penbrochians partakers of the conquest of Glamorgan, who had the land of Sangennith in Glamorganshire given him and his heirs; and this was one of the first counties of Wales that was subdued to the crown of England, procured by means of a Penbrokeshire man. And afterwards the manfulness of Earl Strongbow in conquering this country, and in preserving and keeping of it against the princes of Wales, and continuing mere English in name, blood, and language, and defended it to hold of the kings of England, never suffering the ancient inhabitants to return to the same again, as many parts of Wales did, being once subdued by the Englishmen, but soon lost again (namely, Cardigan, Carmarthenshire, Anglesey, and divers other parts of Wales) a thing worthy of note and remembrance. Also the subduing of Ireland, being a whole realm, by Strongbow, earl of this county, and his people, and bringing it in obedience and subjection to the kings of this land, as before I have more largely declared.

And out of this county are descended some of the chief and principal men of Ireland, as the Geraldines, of whom the earls of Desmond and Kildare draw their paternal descent, the Viscount Batinglasse, the Lord Roche. The Lord Barrey, the Flemings, Baron of Slane, FitzMorice, Baron of Kerry, Mak Jordan, Baron of Deseret, the Wogans of Greene Castle, a great and mighty people there

in times past, and many other gentlemen whose names yet shew them to be descended from hence, where their original houses are yet known by and after their own names, and in the possession of their kindred in this county.

If Penbrokeshire people then were the means of subduing Ireland and Wales to the kings of England, the one being a kingdom, the other a principality; what glory can be greater, and what praise more worthy, and what other county in this land may vaunt themselves of such valiant attempts and happy success? And therefore no marvel that this county was magnified above all the rest of Wales to be a county palatine, and well might the Kings of England call this their little England beyond Wales.

Besides the worthiness of the people of this county in general, I may speak somewhat of the worthiness and estimation of our ancient earls and other famous men that have lived here in times past for many of the Earls of Penbroke have been the chief peers and pillars of this realm, as William Marshal who slew in one battle 9000 of Prince Llewelyn's men, and who also obtained the great charter of liberties to all the nobles and commons of this realm.

Also it appears, that in Anno 4th Edward 2nd Annoq Christi 1311, when the king gave commission to the lords and barons of this land to chose and select certain of themselves to make laws to govern the realm and king; when as of all the baronage spiritual and temporal, there were chosen by 21 persons to make those laws whereof there were 7 bishops, 8 earles and 7 barons, 3 of them were of Penbrokeshire namely the bishop of St David's, the earl of Pembroke, and Sir William Martine, lord of Kemes, then baron of the Parliament by that name --- William de Valance, was also a noble peer of the land; John Duke of Bedford who, in Anno Quinto Henrice quinti was made regent of England, and afterwards regent of France; and Humffrey, the good good Duke of Gloucester, and many other famous and valiant men have been Earls of this county and poor country, who with their men servants and tenants have done famous and worthy exploits in service of the king and realm.

What shall I say of the people seeing the land and soil itself, and all the actions attempted therein have fatally from age to age, prognosticated joy, peace. Love and tranquillity, to the whole realm, as namely that here was born the prince of peace King Henry the 7th, who knit the knot of peace by uniting the red rose and the white, out of which knot has sprung the quiet of this land, after so many bloody broils and shedding of the blood royal of this imperial crown in which domestical sedition 80 peers of the blood royal(and that in 36 years as says Bodin out of Philip de Commynes) have been killed by untimely death, besides multitudes of other nobility and commons *sans number*.)

Here was the said King Henry besieged in the castle of Pembroke in his great weakness with his uncle Jasper, where he wanted no relief, but was by his people, here defended and safely sent to the sea to save his life; at Tenby town he was speedily conveyed away, which the good prince not forgetting at his coming to the crown rewarded MrWhite ancestor to Mr Harry White of Henllan, now living, then mayor of Tenby, with lease of all the king's lands about the said town of Tenby; a good recompense done to one man for a good deed to the whole realm.

Here again in Penbrokeshire happened his landing and first footing when he came to enjoy the crown, and to confound the parricide and bloody tyrant Richard 3rd here found he the hearts and hands first of all this land ready to aid and assist him, and frequently after breathing of this his native counties air began his forces to increase.

The good king seemed to acknowledge this soil fatal and happy to him, for in the place where he first touched land in Milford Haven, he built a chapel, as though he wished to have the lucky place hallowed to God's service. Of the body of this Penbrokeshire prince have sprung and budded out such joy's as make the hearts of all good subjects to leap for joy, as first, in extinguishing our home and domestical sedition; as also in thinking upon the issue out of his loins,

namely the famous King Henry the 8th, in his time most famous in the world; King Edward, Queen Mary, and lastly, our most gracious sovereign Queen Elizabeth whose long and peaceful government may be a mirror or rather an admiration to all princes ; and herein I must not omit how King Henry 8th when he resolved to marry Queen Anne Bullen among all the honourable titles which he had to bestow on his best beloved choose to create her Marchioness of Penbroke, as a title of so gracious and peaceable a Prince

Chapter XXVIII

XXXXX

Of Pastimes and Recreations, fit for Gentlemen, which Penbrokeshire yields.

In treatment of pastimes for recreation of gentlemen, this county is not destitute of such solaces but of itself yields aptness for the same, though by industry of gentlemen, other county's do far surmount for preserved game;

First, therefore, among those I will place and speak of hunting, which the county being for the most part champion and plain, is for the the same very pleasant and delightful, though scarce of some store of game; but herein I must crave pardon of gentlemen and expert herdsmen, if I shall offend in my terms in speaking about this matter, for therein I must confess myself unskilful, about which I must give to note that there neither is, nor (to my knowledge) ever was forest of chase in this county, I mean any part or territory of ground privileged for beasts or fowls or forest chase, and warren, or being endowed with the laws privileges, immunities, or courts of law, or officers belonging, and proper to a forest., although there are divers woods, and other places, called and termed by the name of forests, yet are they neither forest, chase or warren, indeed. Never the less there are in this county, some beasts of forest; though few parts of England have all the sorts, for, as I remember, the beasts of the forest are these that are called *Fere fylveferes*, and differ from those of the chase which are called campestres. Beast of the forest or beast of the venerie, called Sylvestres are five in numbered.

The Hart,

The Hind,

The Boar,

The Wolf,

The Hare,

As for harts and hinds, although there be a few not worth spending any speech upon, yet some there are, and those live without sanctuary or privilege of forest, free for every man to chase and hunt, at his pleasure. As for the wild boar the same is so rare, and I hear little of none of the kind of venison in England, but sure I am, there is none in this county, although I have seen wild swine kept, yet never preserved for the game, and therefore, as they and the wolves are banished the land, so I will expel them out of this treatise, although it seems they were plenty in former times seeing our forest laws and the treatises of ancient woodmen of England number them among *Fere Sylvestres* so that for me to speak of in this place, there is only the silly hare left, of which kind of beasts I think no county in England yields more plenty; yea, in such number near in woods and courts, that the neighbours corn is by them greatly damaged, and I have known in my time, a husbandman that rose often a night out of his bed to chase away the hares from his corn, so much harm he found by their feeding. And although the tracing of hares on the snow, (an offence forbidden by Parliament) be not looked unto or severely punished in these parts and that tracing is used ordinarily, so that some one man among many others has been known to slaughter, in a forenoon 16 or 18 hares to his part; yet is there increase such as no man feels grief or perceives want. Therefore this beast affords sufficient pastime to hunt with hounds, and chase with greyhounds; many places of this shire being little or nothing inferior for plenty to the special warrens of hares preserved in many parts of England for the pleasure of the nobility and gentlemen, and this pastime of hunting of the hare is the greatest and most used in this county of all other.

The Beasts of the chase, as the book of the Antiquities of Britaine and Sir Tristram, in his Treatise of Hunting, say are also five in number, that is to say

The Buck,

The Doe

The Fox,

The Marten,

The Roe

The Beasts of Chase are not in estimation so royal as the former, and differ in this that those of Vernier, or of the forest, live in woods and covets all day and go to feed abroad in the night, to the meadows, pastures and fields.

The beasts of the forest differ also from those of the chase in this; the trespass of the one is punishable by the forest laws and the latter by the laws of the realm only and not otherwise.

The buck and the doe are in this county , very scarce, preserved in two small parks only, and not in any forest or chase, and the number very few.

For the third, I mean Mr Fox, his neighbourhood among us, is more common than commendable, and if, for pleasure he be desired of some for his conditions, he is hated of most.

This grave gentleman, for his furs seems to be a townsman;

for his wit and invention in stratagems , and engineer;

for keeping his castle male pardus, a Spaniard

He is beloved in general, as the executioner of Tyburne,

and as profitable to the Commonwealth as a Relater.

The Marten is the fourth beast of chase, who although he be more innocent than the last has many times with his sweet meat; yet in one thing they concur, that they are desired only for the two last fillable of their carcasses; of this kind of beast there is good store, and much hunting of them, wherein divers gentlemen are often solaced.

For Roes the county yields not any, neither did ever hear of any by report of the ancient men, to have been usual in this county.

Thus having spoken of the five sorts of beast of the forest which are also called beasts of vernier, as also the five sorts of the beasts of the chase, all which ten sorts are comprehended under the name of venison; next comes in course to speak of the beasts and fowls of warren, which are four in numbered

The Hare,

The Coney,

The Pheasant,

The Partridge.

Who so ever has liberty of fence warren may have his special action of trespass at the common law, against any that shall hunt or chase therein; and as I have said before of parks and chases, so of free warren. I know few or none that have the liberty, though divers gentlemen have good warrens of coney's yet all underprivileged.

The pheasant and the partridge, I have referred them to my words, where I have spoken of wild fowl. The rest of the game that the county yields for the chase of huntsmen, are rather vermin than

beasts of game, such is the wild cat, the Brock and such like, where of there is more store than necessary, creating good sport to the huntsman.

I have also seen good in hunting and killing the wild bull, wild ox, and wild calf by horsemen and footmen; whereof there is yet some store reared upon the mountains, though left them here to fore, the owner finding more profit by the tame than pleasure in the wild.

For hawking, the county both for plaines of the soil, plenty of game, both for the field and river yields store, which I refer to my former speeches, treating of wild fowl, and in this place will only speak of the aptness of the country, which for plain downs, high mountains, pleasant brooks and rivers, there needs not to be wished more than there is.

Next to those exercises of pleasure, fishing is to be preferred, where of the county yields plenty. Either for the angle, net, wheel, hook or otherwise, as well in the fresh rivers as in the main seas, as before I have declared in the 14th Chapter, where I treat of the sorts of fish, which fishing, although I spoke of it, in that place, as a matter of profit and commodity of the shire, yet, for that many sorts of fishing are also used more for recreation and exercise, than for profit, I will afford it a place here among the pleasures of the shire,

Fowling also claims a place with pleasures of this country, which for that I cannot justly deny it, it shall gang among them, and truly not unworthily, considering the great abundance of fowl that yearly haunt the country whether the same be taken with line, net, crossbow, longbow, and bolt, stone bow, trunk, or dog; the particulars there of would require a whole treatise such the fame is accompanied as much pleasure and delight as profit and commodity for the better understanding whereof, I refer to the 15th Chapter, where in you may see the several sorts of fowl yearly haunting the country; and thereby imagine the sundry kinds of taking of them, and what variety of pleasure may be found thereby.

As for gaming at cards and dice, I know no country using less, and archery the fairest game of England, as in other parts; the same is yet talked of, but rarely practised also far are the modern minds alienated from their forefathers; but bowls and tennis play, being both games and exercise, are much frequented; and although they be prohibited, yet, in my simple opinion, they are not *mala in fe* and being moderately used of persons and in seasons fit, they are the games that yield more exercise to man's body than any other.

The youths also practise wrestling, throwing the stone, bar, and sledge, therein to shew their abilities as also in running and leaping.

[The author here closed the first part of the work professing to be *the general description of Penbrokeshire* and that he had an intension of writing a second part is evident from his own declarations in many places of the first part; but which, it would appear he never lived to complete]

